

LIBERTARIAN PARTY LP NEWS

The Party of Principle®

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Mass. LP files bid to end income tax

Proposed 2002 referendum could save Bay State taxpayers \$9 billion a year

By Jonathan Trager
LP NEWS STAFF WRITER

Massachusetts Libertarians filed a proposed initiative to repeal the state's income tax — a measure that could potentially save Bay State taxpayers \$9 billion a year.

On July 12, Carla Howell, who is spearheading the effort, submitted the initiative's proposed language to Massachusetts Assistant Attorney General Peter Sacks. It was the first step in a 17-month process to place the measure on the November 2002 ballot.

Dubbed the "Small Government Act," the initiative would eliminate the state's current 5% tax on wages, the 5% tax on interest and dividends, and the up-to-12% tax on capital gains.

"The Small Government Act (SGA) is probably the largest percentage slash in [state] government and taxation proposed in the United States since the end of World War II," said Howell, the party's 2000 U.S. Senate candidate and potential 2002 gubernatorial candidate.

If approved by voters, the initiative would take effect at the end of the 2002 fiscal year (on July 1, 2003), and would save the average taxpayer an estimated \$2,000 a year.

Outreach tool

Massachusetts LP Chair Elias Israel said the SGA will serve as an effective outreach tool for the state party.

"Strategically, tactically, and philosophically, nothing could be better for the Massachusetts LP," he said. "This initiative will draw



■ Carla Howell hands the proposed language of the Income Tax Repeal Initiative to Massachusetts Assistant Attorney General Peter Sacks on July 12. If approved by voters, the initiative would eliminate the state's income tax, which collects \$9 billion annually from taxpayers.

a clear small-government line in the sand, and invite every voter who wants small government to join us."

A team of Libertarian attorneys crafted the wording of the initiative to comply with state

law, said Howell, making her reasonably confident it will be approved by the Attorney General.

The Attorney General's office has until August to review the language, and either accept it, reject it, or propose changes.

Once the initiative is certified, Libertarians must gather 57,101 certified signatures between mid-September and mid-November to put the initiative before a vote of the state legislature.

See **TAX CUT** Page 2

Libertarians help stop Shays-Meehan

The Libertarian Party may have played a role in helping to defeat the Shays-Meehan "campaign finance reform" bill in the U.S. House, thanks to a last-minute e-mail lobbying blitz.

On July 12, the U.S. House shelved the Shays-Meehan bill (HR 2356) and the related Ney-Wynn bill (HR 2360) on a vote over procedural rules — less than 24 hours after the Libertarian Party sent a lobbying message to its 31,000-strong e-mail list.

Both bills were designed "to further protect the jobs of Democrat and Republican incumbents," so their defeat is good news for

Libertarians, said LP National Director Steve Dasbach.

"These bills were phony campaign finance reform," he said. "They were Incumbent Protection Acts, and would have made it more difficult for the Libertarian Party — or any third party — to

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Discover Liberty
project is underway

SPECIAL FEATURE



The Top 25 Liberty Songs

By Bill Winter
LP NEWS EDITOR

It's been said that popular music — whether rock, rap, pop, folk, or country — is the soundtrack by which we live our lives.

If that's the case, Libertarians want to sing along to a soundtrack that reflects their most fundamental value: Liberty.

That's why we came up with "Liberty's Best Songs" — 25 songs that celebrate human freedom, civil

liberties, resistance to tyranny, or just plain old all-American "I did it my way" individualism.

The songs were chosen from over 200 suggestions sent in by LP News readers. Our selection process wasn't scientific: If someone sent in a compelling 100-word essay (or lyrics) explaining why their favorite tune was a libertarian classic, it made the first cut.

From there, we winnowed the list down to a Top 25, based on musical and lyrical merit, the number of votes received, the song's musical genre, and the date the song was released.

See **BEST SONGS** Page 16

NewsBriefs

Mark Rutherford named to LNC

Indiana LP Chair Mark W. Rutherford has been elected as the new Region Three Representative on the Libertarian National Committee.

Rutherford was selected by a June e-mail vote of State Chairs in the region, which encompasses Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky, and Michigan. He replaces Sara Chambers, who is moving to Alaska.

"[Being elected] is a great honor," said Rutherford, who is a founder and partner of the Indianapolis-based law firm of Laudig, George, Rutherford & Sipes.

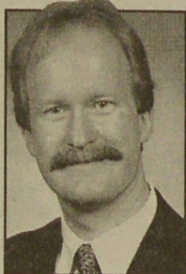
As an LNC member, Rutherford said he has two main goals.

"The LP needs to become very focused on electing local libertarians to office and running as many candidates as possible on the local level," he said. "These offices are winnable."

"We also need to promote brand recognition of the Libertarian Party. A lot of voters still don't know who we are and what we are about. Our name should be everywhere with simple slogans that help identify us to the public."

In other LNC news, Mike Dixon has moved from Region One to Region Seven Representative, while D. Mark Nelson was promoted from Region One Alternate to Representative.

Meanwhile, Kentucky LP Vice Chair Greg Holmes was named as Region Three Alternate. He replaces Alternate Barbara Goushaw, who resigned. And in Region One, Tom Knapp has been named as LNC Alternate.



■ **Rutherford:**
Has two goals.

Libertarian Alternative is on the air

California LP activist has begun producing a "100% LP propaganda" public access show called *The Libertarian Alternative*.

The weekly television program features guests who discuss Libertarian ideas, said Mark Selzer, who co-hosts the show with LP member Dusti Taylor.

"[We] try to have our best Libertarian communicators translate our message into real people talk on various issues in as pleasant an atmosphere as possible," he said.

The half-hour talk show airs on Tuesdays at 8 pm on about 10 networks, including Time Warner Cable, Cox Cable, Adelphia Cable, and AT&T Cable.

Reaching the Los Angeles area, Orange County, San Diego, and parts of Oregon, the show broadcasts during prime time in order to catch as many "channel flippers" as possible, said Selzer, who also serves as the state LP's southern vice chair.

"[We want channel flippers to get] a positive view of Libertarians," he said. "Some of them may not look for long, but some may stop and listen — and hear some things they like."

A well-produced public access show can reach hundreds or thousands of people each week, said Selzer.

"I have found putting on this show is [an activity] we can do in a community to increase our visibility — and [is] the best bang for our activist buck," he said.

To view clips, visit: <http://www.dehnbases.org/lpc/library/libalt/>. Or write: Mark Selzer, 1830 N. Cherokee Ave. #511, L.A. CA 90028. Or e-mail: liberty64@jps.net. Or call: 323-469-5372.



■ **Dusti Taylor:**
Show co-host.

Penn Jillette joins Cato Institute

Penn Jillette, the comedian/magician known for his outrageous antics and bawdy sense of humor, has gotten a serious job: He's the new H.L. Mencken research fellow for the Cato Institute.

Jillette, the larger and louder half of the magic team Penn & Teller, joined the Washington, DC-based libertarian think tank's team in July, and will write essays for *Regulation* magazine, Cato's quarterly journal of business and government. The magazine is available online at www.regulationmagazine.org.

"No longer content with discharging handguns in public and shouting 'Fire!' in crowded theaters, Jillette is moving his crusade for individual liberties to the think tank world," said Richard Pollock, Cato's vice president of communications.

Jillette joins his sidekick Teller, who was named an H.L. Mencken research fellow for Cato in 1996.

Penn & Teller are probably America's best known magic team. They have appeared on *Saturday Night Live*, the *Tonight Show*, the *Late Show*, and on Broadway. Their articles have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Time*, *Playboy*, and the *New Yorker*. In 1998, they published the book, *How to Play in Traffic*.

Mass. LP files income tax repeal

Continued from Page 1

The legislature has the option to pass the measure, bypassing the initiative process.

If the legislature rejects the measure — as Howell predicts — Libertarians must collect another 9,517 certified signatures during May and June 2002 to qualify for the November 2002 ballot.

Even then, the process isn't necessarily over, said Howell.

Libertarians must stave off any legal court challenges, she said, and the Massachusetts legislature has the power to repeal an initiative once it is passed by the voters — although that latter course of action is unlikely.

"[Politicians] are hard-pressed to conform to the will of the people directed by ballot initiatives," she said. "They will likely be forced to comply — while they yell and scream that their beloved Big Government is being starved."

Sales tax repeal?

In the event that the SGA does not survive the certification process or court challenges, Libertarians have a backup plan, said Howell: A petition to repeal the state sales tax.

Although not as "bold" as an income tax repeal, Howell said the alternative measure would save taxpayers about \$4 billion and still force spending cuts.

If the income tax repeal does pass, the state government would still collect \$14 billion in taxes a year — about \$4 billion more than in 1990 under then-Governor Michael Dukakis. The state would still get revenues from the general sales tax, selective sales tax, corporate tax, license tax, and other sources.

Howell said Libertarians can expect massive opposition to the measure. For example, teachers' unions last year spent millions of dollars opposing an initiative to reduce the income tax rate by .85%. That measure still passed by a two-to-one margin.

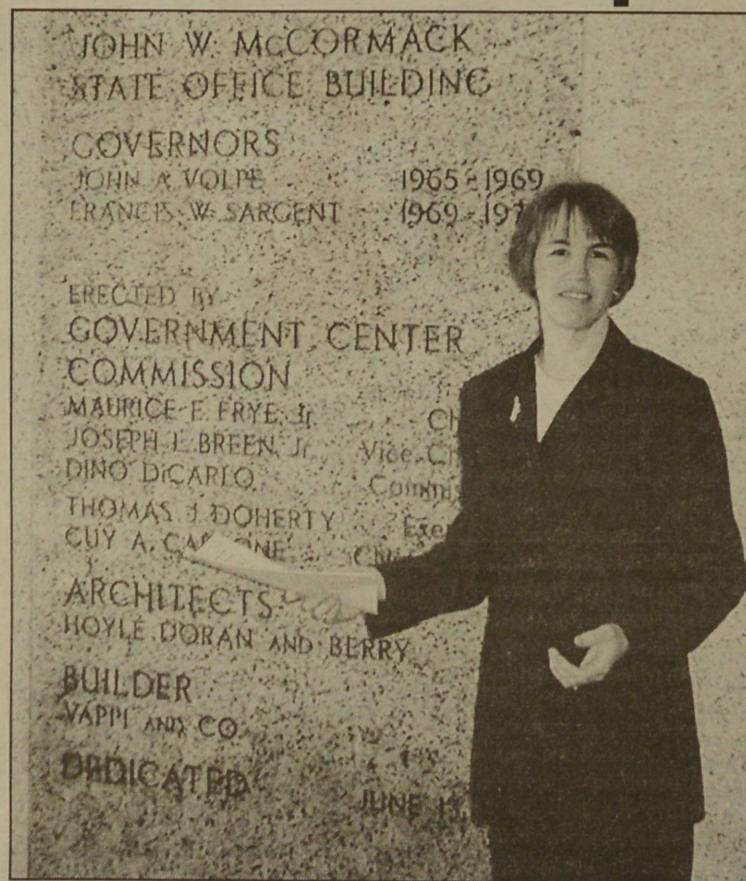
However, Libertarians can also count on the support of a significant number of taxpayers, she said: Over the past 20 years, no tax cut initiative has won less than 39% of the vote.

Shatter claims

And even a vote total as low as 20% in favor of the Small Government Act would "shatter the claims of Big Government advocates who'd like us to believe that a bold, Libertarian agenda is supported by only a small, single-digit fraction of the population," she said.

There are other reasons to propose such a dramatic initiative, said Howell: It can excite voters and create significant political reform.

"By proposing a bold tax cut, we demonstrate how to achieve small government," she said. "Big tax cuts mean dramatically reduc-



■ **Carla Howell** at the McCormack Building in Boston, Massachusetts, just before turning in the Small Government Act. "By proposing a bold tax cut, [Libertarians] demonstrate how to achieve small government," she said.

ing Big Government used to destroy education, destroy health care, and destroy our gun rights.

"Small government allows you thousands of dollars every year to spend as you see fit: On your family, your retirement, your favorite cause — in your own community."

The initiative will also send a message to voters about what the Libertarian Party stands for, said Israel.

Positive change

"Even though the odds may be long, the press attention it's sure to garner will cement in the minds of Massachusetts voters

that Libertarians stand for meaningful, positive change," he said.

In addition, the Small Government Act will serve as a launching pad for Howell's expected 2002 gubernatorial campaign, the U.S. Senate campaign of LP activist Michael Cloud, and a number of other state and local candidates, said Israel.

"When voters see that we can eliminate the state income tax by rolling back state government to what it was just a few years ago, they're sure to want to learn more about Carla Howell and about the Libertarian Party," he said.

"What a great start to the 2002 campaign season!"



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The Mission Statement of the Libertarian Party*:

"To move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office."

Discover Liberty outreach effort gets star-spangled start

Two-thirds of state LPs have signed up

The Advocates for Self-Government's Discover Liberty project has gotten off to a "star-spangled" start, with libertarian activists around the country hosting outreach booths over the long, hot 4th of July weekend.

Although comprehensive numbers have not yet been tallied, Advocates president Sharon Harris estimated that libertarians in several dozen states sponsored Operation Politically Homeless booths at July 4th parades, fairs, and other events.

Solid start

"My sense from the state coordinators has been that [the project] has gotten off to a solid start," she said. "And what better time to kick-off such a project than just prior to July 4th weekend?"

Early prospect numbers from the outreach efforts were also encouraging, said Harris.

For example, libertarians hosting an OPH booth at the July 4 Hempfest in Washington, DC collected the names of 268 potential supporters, she said.

And Julie Laurie, Discover Liberty state coordinator in North

Carolina, said the Guilford County LP had great success with their booth at the Greensboro's Fun Fourth Festival on July 4.

"Guilford gathered six times the number of names and addresses that they normally average at this event — and they credit the OPH booth for these outstanding results," she said.

By Discover Liberty's official start date — June 30 — more than two-thirds of state Libertarian parties had agreed to participate in the project, said Harris, and 26 states already had official Discover Liberty coordinators.

Coordinators have also signed on in Puerto Rico and Canada, she said.

Discover Liberty is a nationwide campaign designed to identify thousands of potential LP members and activists.

Participants set up Operation Politically Homeless booths at public functions, and encourage passersby to take the "World's Smallest Political Quiz," which gauges their general political ideology.

The results are then charted, with individuals scoring as Libertarians asked to share contact information.



■ Although not part of the Advocates' Discover Liberty program, this Operation Politically Homeless booth — held at the New York City Gay Pride Parade on June 24 — is an example of the kind of outreach effort the project promotes. "OPH has been proven effective over the years at getting new Libertarian prospects," said Advocates President Sharon Harris. Shown here: LP candidate for mayor of New York City, Kenny Kramer (right), waits to greet voters, Jim Lesczynski staffs the booth, and Blay Tarnoff (left) talks to two prospects.

"OPH has been proven effective over the years at getting new Libertarian prospects," said Harris. "It gives activists a presence and gets the Libertarian label out in public sight. And it's especially important that we recruit new Libertarians in years without much electoral activity, such as this one."

The goal of Discover Liberty is to set up 2,000 OPH booths — which are currently available at half-price from the Advocates — over the next 12 months, said Harris, which should result in

about 500,000 quiz-takers, and potentially 36,000 new names and addresses for the LP.

"That prospect information is like gold," she said. "Those names represent thousands of new people that the LP can send mailings to urging them to join and make contributions."

100 days

Currently, the Washington state Libertarian Party leads the nation with a commitment of more than 100 days of OPH booths this summer, said Harris.

"Washington is leading the pack as of the moment," she said. "But I'm sure all 50 states are going to jump on board and make this a real fun, competitive activity."

For more information about Discover Liberty — or to volunteer as a coordinator or an OPH booth participant — call the Advocates for Self-Government: (770) 386-8372. Or e-mail: DiscoverLiberty@TheAdvocates.org. Visit: www.TheAdvocates.org. Or write: 269 Market Place Blvd., #106, Cartersville, GA 30121.

Eli Israel launches bid for LP National Chair

The race for LP national chair has gotten off to an early start, with the formal announcement of the first candidate: Eli Israel, current chair of the Massachusetts LP.

Although the election isn't until July 2002, Israel said he thought it best to get his campaign underway immediately.

"I think it's only fair to give people the chance to get to know me and my positions," he said. "And what better time than July 4 — which I call the 'Libertarian New Year' — to announce my candidacy?"

Credibility

Israel, 37, said his record with the Massachusetts LP gives him credibility as a candidate for national chair.

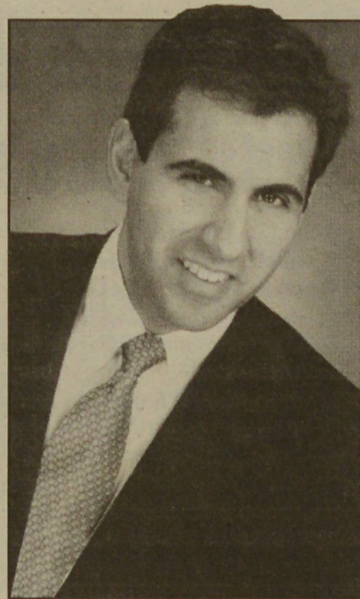
For example, he said, the state party's dues-paying membership has increased from slightly less than 500 in 1997 —

when he became executive director — to almost 1,000 members at present. In addition, Libertarians hold more than 40 elected or appointed positions in the state, and the party ran a slate of 21 candidates on the November 2000 election ballot.

"I'm proud of the successes that we've had in Massachusetts, and excited about the growth of the Libertarian Party nationwide," he said. "But we need to focus our determination on the next level: Making the Libertarian Party into a true major party all across America."

To promote a nationwide Libertarian Party culture of "productivity, teamwork, and action," Israel said he would set several priorities as Chair:

■ **Increased membership and budgets.** "By Election Day 2004, I am committed to increasing the number of dues-paying members from 32,000 to at least



■ Eli Israel: "We need to focus on the next level: Making the Libertarian Party into a true major party across America."

65,000, doubling the annual budget of the national party to at least \$7 million, doubling the number of members in each and every state affiliate, and doubling the annual budget of each and every state affiliate," he said.

■ **Greater support for campaigns.** "I will work to en-

See ELI ISRAEL Page 15

Young Libertarian, 21, wins school board seat

A young Libertarian Party member has been elected to the school board of Grand Rapids, Michigan — the second largest city in the state.

Jeff Steinport, 21, was one of eight candidates vying for three seats on the non-partisan board. He won 13.9% of the votes cast in the election on June 11.

"I'm excited to work for the parents of Grand Rapids," said Steinport after the results were announced. "I built a lot of bridges in my campaign and it paid off."

Exciting

Steinport's victory is exciting for two reasons, said Chris Azzaro, head of the Libertarian Victory Fund PAC: The size of the district, and his age.

"This is a huge Libertarian victory because the Grand Rapids school district has over 180,000 residents — making Steinport a very high-ranking elected

CHRIS AZZARO:

"Jeff is now one of the youngest elected Libertarians in the country."

official," he said.

"[Also], Steinport, just 21 years old, is now one of the youngest elected Libertarians in the country. Future young LP candidates need to look no further than Jeff Steinport to see that victories can be won on the local level, regardless of age, if you run a good campaign with a quality candidate."

The Libertarian Victory Fund See SCHOOL BOARD Page 15

Political News

Recruiting manual is now available

Offering to help LP affiliates recruit an "army of candidates" for office, the national Libertarian Party has developed a new-and-improved candidate recruitment manual.

LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger said the 33-page manual — which contains step-by-step instructions and has already been sent to all state and county chairs — is available free to any interested Libertarian.

"The manual is based on the experiences of our state parties that have been most successful at recruiting candidates, and presents a program that any Libertarian group can follow to dramatically increase the number of quality candidates they run," he said.

For example, said Crickenberger, the Vermont LP ran six candidates in 1996 who received a total of about 20,000 votes. In 1998, they ran 44 candidates and received more than 80,000 votes, electing two Libertarians to office.

"Using the manual was instrumental in recruiting our record slate of candidates," said then-State Chair Chris Costanzo. "And the record slate of candidates was the key to media attention and respect."

The manual is available at <http://www.lp.org/campaigns/crm/crmanual.pdf>. In addition, Crickenberger said free copies will be mailed to anyone who promises to put it to good use in recruiting candidates.

"Remember — the only thing that will ensure a Libertarian does not win an election is for a Libertarian to not be in the race," he said.

For a free printed copy of the candidate recruitment manual, e-mail Marc Brandl at: Brandl@hq.lp.org. Or call: (202) 333-0008, ext. 237.

16th Amendment repeal bill filed

Rep. Ron Paul (R-TX) has introduced a Constitutional amendment that would scrap the income tax — and every other direct tax on American citizens — by repealing the 16th Amendment to the Constitution.

"[The income tax] has enabled government to expand far beyond its proper limits, invade our privacy, and penalize our every endeavor," said Paul.

Paul introduced HJR 45 on April 25. Dubbed the "Liberty Amendment," Paul said the measure would effectively return America to Constitutional government.

"The Founding Fathers never intended an income tax, and they certainly would be dismayed to know that Americans today give more than a third of their income to the federal government," he said.

Americans are "fed up" with the tax code, and are clearly ready for "sweeping tax reform," he said — yet Congress remains focused on making tiny, inconsequential changes to tax laws.

Instead, Paul said that Congress should adopt his amendment and finance government activities with excise taxes — as was done for almost 140 years.

"When Congress introduced the 16th Amendment, it opened the door to the era of big government," he said. "This amendment would close that door."

HJR 45 has two co-sponsors: Rep. Jeff Flake (R-AZ) and Rep. John N. Hostettler (R-IN). Since the bill was referred to a House subcommittee on May 9, no action has been taken.

'Quiz' appears in Washington Post

The World's Smallest Political Quiz has appeared in one of America's most influential newspapers.

On June 17, the Sunday *Washington Post* (circulation: 1 million), printed the Quiz in its "Outlook" section. The article noted that the Quiz — which is distributed by the Advocates for Self-Government — is a "quick way for your to find your place in the political spectrum."

The appearance in the *Post* lends credibility to the Quiz and to libertarianism, said LP National Director Steve Dasbach.

"Along with the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post* is perhaps the most politically influential newspaper in America," he said. "Having the Quiz appear there is a major coup that helps legitimize the concept of politics as a four-way quadrant, rather than a Left/Right straight line."

The Quiz, invented by David Nolan and Marshall Fritz, uses 10 questions to measure a person's political beliefs on a four-way chart that includes Libertarian, Liberal, Conservative, and Authoritarian.



■ Ron Paul: End income tax.

Fylstra resigns as LP Vice Chair; cites job/political time pressures

Dan Fylstra has resigned as vice chair of the Libertarian Party, citing an "impossible situation" of too much work and too little time to devote to his political responsibilities.

Fylstra, who had been elected vice chair at the July 2000 LP national convention, sent an e-mail resignation to LP National Chair Jim Lark on July 10. He said he had been "seriously considering" resignation for about a month.

Caught in a "vise of time commitments," Fylstra said his schedule as the president of a software company and acting president of a start-up biotech company did not allow for increasing LNC responsibilities.

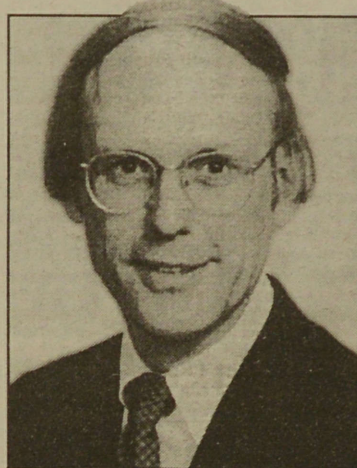
"I've come to the conclusion that the best — indeed the only — course of action for me is to resign as an LP officer and LNC member," he wrote.

Valuable

Lark described Fylstra as a "very valuable member of the team," and said he was "very disappointed" with the decision.

"However, given the tremendous amount of time to which he must devote to his businesses, I understand his decision," he said. "I greatly appreciate his service as vice chairman, and I wish him all the best."

Fylstra said that when he had



■ Dan Fylstra: "I've come to the conclusion that the best — indeed the only — course of action for me is to resign as an LP officer."

taken the job of LNC vice chair, he had expected three to four weekend trips per year for LNC meetings, and telephone Executive Committee (EC) meetings once a month.

But the frequency of the meetings had increased to at least eight LNC and Strategic Planning Team (SPT) meetings this year, Fylstra said, with EC meetings nearly every two weeks — making it impossible to balance his time.

"I'm accustomed to working extremely hard, and I've tried to fulfill all three responsibilities all

year — but I've been burning the candle at both ends and the middle for too long," he said.

"I've got an impossible situation. It's time to heed the warnings from my friends, my wife, my doctor, and my own body. I have to give something up, and it's got to be my duties as an LP officer and LNC member."

Although he expressed sorrow at leaving in the middle of the strategic planning process and the investigation into former LP National Chair Perry Willis, Fylstra said it would be "crazy" to continue his busy schedule.

Not attend

As such, Fylstra said he will not attend future SPT or LNC meetings, will not participate in future EC teleconference meetings, and will not play any role in the 2002 convention, except perhaps as a delegate.

In addition, Fylstra said he wishes to be removed from all LP mailing lists. E-mail has become a "major problem" for him, he said, since his e-mail address on the LP website had been "harvested" by countless spammers.

"Even with a variety of e-mail filters and rules, this has really interfered with my ability to work at my two full-time-plus jobs," he said.

Fylstra has also recommended
See **FYLSTRA** Page 13

In Oregon, 2nd Libertarian-inspired ballot access bill is signed into law

Another Libertarian-inspired ballot access bill has become law in Oregon, this time easing the requirement for a minor party to obtain "major" party status.

The bill was signed into law on July 2 by Governor John Kitzhaber, after passing the State House by a vote of 44-8 and the State Senate by a vote of 28-2.

"We're on a roll here in Oregon," said Richard Burke, the Libertarian legislative assistant who authored the bill. "We're paving the way to become a major force in state politics in the near future."

5% of voters

Under SB 747, filed by State Senator Gary George, a party can now earn major party status once it registers 5% of voters.

Previously, a party could earn major party status if it won 15% of the vote in a statewide election, registered 3% of voters in the next 50 months, and then won at least

RICHARD BURKE:

"We're paving the way to become a major force in state politics."

15% of the vote again in the next statewide election.

The Oregon LP presently has .74% — or 14,000 — registered voters.

"Of course, [5% of registered voters] is far more than we have now, but the previous restriction made becoming a major party practically impossible," said Burke.

"The important thing about this bill is that it gives us a concrete number to shoot for. We can now focus on party membership

growth rather than running candidates in unwinnable statewide races."

When the Libertarian Party eventually gains major party status, the media "blackout" of Libertarian candidates during primary season will end, predicted Burke.

Cover LP candidates

"The press generally refuses to cover us until the major parties have held their primaries," he said. "But with major party status, they will cover our candidates as well."

Another bill written by Burke, SB 777, was signed into law on June 5. That bill lowered the threshold for automatic statewide ballot access from 1% of the vote in a statewide race to .5% of registered voters in the state.

Both bills were filed by Senator Gary George, who became a dues-paying LP member in January, while retaining his Republican registration and affiliation.

"Personal Responsibility is the Price of Liberty," said Michael Cloud in his Nationally Televised C-SPAN speech.

Why Personal Responsibility? Everyone wants to be free, but who wants to be responsible? Why make Personal Responsibility the issue?

Because Personal Responsibility is at the core of every problem America faces.

This is the dirty little secret about Big Government Growth. Government does **not** grow by seizing Individual Liberty.

Big Government grows by assuming Personal Responsibility.

Individual Liberty and Personal Responsibility are two sides of the same gold coin. We cannot surrender one side of the coin without losing the other.

We must take back Personal Responsibility to restore Individual Liberty.

Michael Cloud vs. John Kerry.

U.S. Senator John Kerry (D-MA) is toying with a Presidential bid for 2004. But first there's a minor inconvenience: he has to run for re-election in Massachusetts in 2002.

Need a clear picture of John Kerry and his politics? Michael Dukakis, Ted Kennedy, and John Kerry. Three peas in a pod.

Democrat Senator John Kerry always votes Big Government.

More Big Government Authority. More Big Government Control. More Big Government Power.

More Big Government.

Every time John Kerry votes, we lose Personal Responsibility.

Libertarian Michael Cloud actively campaigns for Personal Responsibility. A campaign for Personal Responsibility is a campaign for Individual Liberty.

Michael Cloud votes Personal Responsibility. Every Issue. Every Time. No Exceptions. No Excuses. Help us put our best Libertarian communicator up against a smooth-talking Big Government Democrat Senator.

Help us put Libertarian Michael Cloud toe-to-toe, knee-to-knee, belly-to-belly with Democrat U.S. Senator John Kerry.

High Noon. A showdown of ideologies in Massachusetts. Personal Responsibility vs. Big Government Power. Michael Cloud vs. John Kerry.

Personal Responsibility is the Issue.

Small government is the key. Individual Liberty is the reward. So is Personal Responsibility. It's gratifying and satisfying. Living as an adult. Not like a child.

Personal Responsibility is at the root of every political issue in America.

A vote to dismantle Big Government is a vote for Personal Responsibility.

Michael Cloud is a vote for small government. Where would he begin?

End Drug Prohibition and the War on Drugs. End Gun Prohibition and the War on Guns. End Social Security and the Bankrupting of Seniors. End the Income Tax and the War on Human Achievement.

Personal Responsibility means Individual Liberty.



Why Michael Cloud?

Black Belt Master of the Art of Libertarian Persuasion. National Tom Paine Award winner. "Persuasion Power Points" columnist with over 52,374 subscribers. Libertarian strategist. Nationally acclaimed speechwriter. National organizer of 2 Libertarian Presidential campaigns. 2 Nationally Televised Libertarian Speeches. CEO of the Carla Howell for U.S. Senate campaign.

Jo Jorgensen, 1996 Libertarian VP nominee said, "Michael Cloud is, hands-down, the best public speaker in the Libertarian Party."

Chris Azzaro, Executive Director, Libertarian Victory Fund said, "One day in 1998 in Nevada, I was with Michael Cloud when he was a guest on 6 talk radio shows in one day. 3 Conservative, 1 Christian, 1 Liberal, and 1 Show-Biz. Michael Cloud mesmerized the hosts and their audiences with our Libertarian Principle of Personal Responsibility. Their phones rang off the hook, and so did our Libertarian inquiry line. Michael Cloud's campaign for U.S. Senate in Massachusetts could bring us National media attention."

Carla Howell, 2000 Libertarian for U.S. Senate said, "Michael Cloud wrote the book on the Art of Libertarian Persuasion. He was the Mastermind behind my U.S. Senate campaign. Michael Cloud is phenomenally talented, passionately dedicated, and utterly indispensable."

Take Responsibility. Help Michael Cloud.

Help Michael Cloud persuade hundreds of thousands of Massachusetts voters that Personal Responsibility is the Issue.

Help Michael Cloud enroll hundreds of new Libertarians.

Next month, Michael Cloud will speak to over 46,000 people at the MassCann/NORML Freedom rally on the Boston Common. Help fund Libertarian campaign materials for all 46,000.

We have 462 days.

462 days. Michael Cloud will campaign across Massachusetts. Speeches. TV appearances. Newspaper and Radio coverage. Colleges and Universities. Gun Clubs. Churches and Synagogues. Civic Organizations. For 462 days.

Help us put Michael Cloud and our message of Personal Responsibility in front of every voter in Massachusetts.

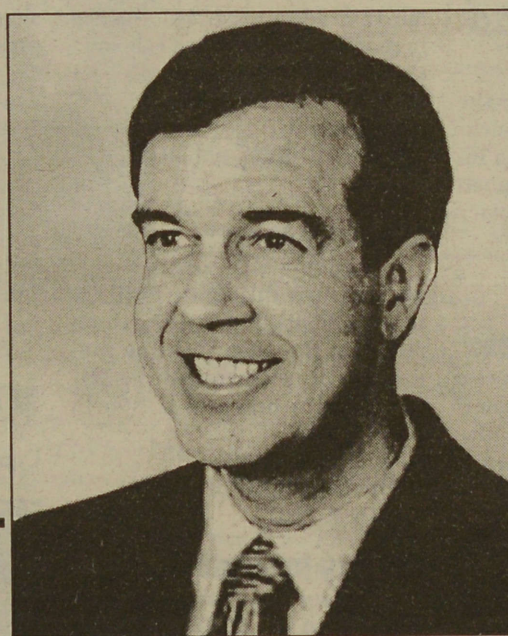
Join our campaign for Personal Responsibility.

Please donate generously.

Donate today. Thank you.

Libertarian for U.S. Senate MASSACHUSETTS

Personal Responsibility is the Issue



LPNews8/01

Michael Cloud LIBERTARIAN FOR U.S. SENATE

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| <input type="checkbox"/> \$150 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$85 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: \$ |
| I'll pay by: <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discover <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> AmEx | | |

You may donate up to \$2,000: \$1,000 for primary and \$1,000 for General Election

Personal Responsibility Is the Issue

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Mail to: Michael Cloud for U.S. Senate • 131 Bridge Street • Salem, MA 01970 • **Note:** Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, and occupation and employee for each individual whose contribution aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. Not tax deductible. Paid for by Michael Cloud for U.S. Senate, R. Dennis Corrigan, Treasurer.

WalkingPoints

\$860k worth of aromatherapy & the GOP's 28,000 regulations

■ Tax free in 1990?

Did you know that you could completely eliminate the income tax revenue this year and still operate all the functions of the federal government at the level of spending in 1990, only 11 years ago? That's the truth.

— JOSEPH FARAH
WorldNet, June 2001

■ Tax dollars at work

Among the [federal] projects recently canceled was an \$860,000 program to teach public housing tenants to reduce stress and improve their self-esteem by the use of colors, meditation, aromatherapy, and "applied kinesiology" (in which a practitioner feels a person's glands to determine which of 14 personality types that person is).

The program's chief trainer said she was "shocked" that something so successful was being terminated.

— NEWS OF THE WEIRD
June 17, 2001

■ Audit them first!

Number of members of Congress or their staffers who failed to file a tax return or pay back taxes in 1999: 856

— HARPER'S, June 2001

■ Better than audits

An investigation of Internal Revenue Service employees by the Treasury Department's Inspector General found, according to Scripps Howard, that IRS workers "used about half their online time at work to visit sex sites, gamble, trade stocks, participate in chat rooms, and do other non-work-related activity."

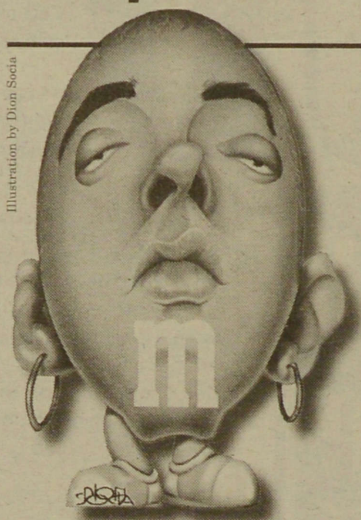
— C.E.I. UPDATE, May 2001

■ Hands off Eminem

Let me say it in hip-hop's language: I've been hating on Eminem for a long time — ever since I heard the first version of his album, with jokes about rapping lesbians, before a cleaner version made him a crossover hit. Rappers like him made it harder for women like me to listen to a music style we once loved uncritically.

But when the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) battles The Real Slim Shady by trying to fine Colorado's KKMKG for playing an unedited version of his song, I reluctantly have to stand up — not in Eminem's defense, but all of ours.

The best reason not to censor



**THE REASON NOT
to censor Eminem:
Government
repression just
increases demand.**

musicians such as Eminem is the same reason Prohibition backfired: Government repression increases demand. Parental labeling simply made filthy lyrics sexier to teens.

— FARAI CHIDEYA
USA Today, July 6, 2001

■ 28,000 new regulations

The Competitive Enterprise Institute recently published a new edition of *Ten Thousand Commandments: An Annual Policy-maker's Snapshot of the Federal Regulatory State*, by adjunct scholar Clyde Wayne Crews, Jr. Some highlights:

- Pages are proliferating in the federal register. In 2000, the Register had 74,258 pages, a 4.3% increase over 1999, and the highest count since the Carter years.

- Since 1994, the year the GOP won control of Congress, more than 28,000 final rules have been issued.

— THE WASHINGTON POST
July 10, 2001

■ 19,000 pork requests

Democrat and Republican Congressmen are hoping to spend hundreds of billions of your tax dollars to benefit their home districts. The more dollars they bring home, the more votes they can buy:

House members have made almost 19,000 spending requests

for projects to benefit their districts. If all these requests were granted, it would cost \$279 billion — almost the amount of the Pentagon's budget!

According to the July 5th *Washington Post*, Congressional spending requests have tripled since the Republicans won control of Congress in 1995.

— CONSERVATIVEHQ.COM
July 7, 2001

■ The catastrophic zone

According to NAEP [National Assessment of Educational Progress] year 2000 data, almost 4 of every 10 American fourth-graders (37%) scored "below basic," meaning they were unable to read after completing their k-3 instruction.

As alarming as the 37% "below basic" figure is, the numbers plunge into a catastrophic zone when they are broken down into subgroups.

A horrendous 63% of black fourth-graders tested below basic in reading, as did 58% of Hispanic children, 47% of urban pupils, and 60% of children from impoverished homes.

— SCHOOL REFORM NEWS
June 2001

■ Smelly pork

Spending bills making their way through the House for 2002 include \$500,000 for research on reducing the odor of swine manure, to be conducted at the National Swine Research Center in Ames, Iowa.

— JAMES TARANTO
OpinionJournal.com
July 3, 2001

■ Lying for justice

During the "homelessness" crusades of the 1980s, homeless advocate Mitch Snyder made up a statistic about how many millions of homeless people there were in this country and threw it out to the media, which snapped it up and broadcast it far and wide.

This fictitious number was repeated so often, and was so widely accepted that people who actually went out and counted the homeless found that it was they who were discredited when their totals differed radically from Mitch Snyder's arbitrary number.

Only belatedly did some major media figure — Ted Koppel on *Nightline* — actually confront Mitch Snyder and ask the source of his statistic. Mr. Snyder then

admitted that it was something he made up, in order to satisfy media inquiries.

Moreover, homeless advocates defended what Mr. Snyder had done and called it "lying for justice."

— THOMAS SOWELL
The Washington Times
July 3, 2001

■ The new drug

Schools in Birmingham, Alabama, now test middle and high school athletes for tobacco as well as illegal drugs. If a student fails, he gets a warning and the promise of further tests. A second failure leads to a mandatory anti-tobacco course. After a third strike, the student is suspended from athletic contests.

— REASON
August/September 2001

■ How to lose \$447 million

Nothing better illustrates the folly of letting politicians loose on investment decisions than what has been happening in California.

In late 1999, ambitious State Treasurer Philip Angelides seized upon "socially responsible investing" as a way to make his mark. He argued that as well as undermining the public health, tobacco companies face legal and regulatory challenges that could bankrupt them.

Angelides helped persuade the boards of California's two largest pension funds to sell their \$800 million in tobacco shares.

Since Angelides began his crusade, the American Stock Exchange Tobacco Index has more than doubled — and Philip Morris Co. was the best-performing Dow Jones industrial average stock in 2000.

BusinessWeek estimates that [the] two California state pension funds could be as much as \$447 million out of pocket due to the lost appreciation of their tobacco shares.

— CHRISTOPHER PALMERI
BusinessWeek, June 11, 2001

■ Top business movies

The Small Business Survival Committee, a Washington-based

lobbying group, has chosen its "top 10 pro-business movies of all time." The picks include:

1. *Tucker: The Man and His Dream* (1988); 2. *Schindler's List* (1993); 3. *It's a Wonderful Life* (1946); 4. *Casablanca* (1943); 5. *Sabrina* (1954); 6. *White Christmas* (1954); 7. *The Greatest Show On Earth* (1952); 8. *The Fountainhead* (1949); 9. *Father of the Bride* (1991); 10. *Batman* (1989).

— THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
June 18, 2001

■ At a sex-toy shop?

The National Law Journal reports that "a Minneapolis woman who took a job at a sex-toy shop filed a lawsuit against the store. The plaintiff claimed hostile-environment sexual harassment because of all the lewd talk she had to listen to during the workday."

— C.E.I. UPDATE, May 2001

■ Brain power-outage

Californians didn't want dams across their rivers, derricks on their ocean, power lines across their borders, or fossil fuel smoke in their sky. These might interfere with all the smart things Californians do, such as hang-glide.

California was going to rely on 'negawatts' dramatic power conservation. (But California regulators put price controls on electricity that lowered prices, and even Californians weren't dumb enough to skip a bargain.)

And California was going to rely on alternative power generation. With all the puffery from Silicon Valley dot.com start-ups, wind farms wouldn't be a problem.

But it turns out that alternative power generation is an alternative, mostly, to generating power. (E)veryone is wrong to listen to Californians whine about electricity deregulation. There never was any deregulation. The California Public Utilities Commission merely changed its regulations, which apparently weren't stupid enough to meet Golden State standards.

— P.J. O'ROURKE
Cato Institute, June 7, 2001

**"Liberty means
responsibility. That is why
most men dread it."**

— GEORGE BERNARD SHAW



Libertarians don't dread responsibility. We embrace it, just as we embrace liberty. And we understand that if we want liberty, it is our responsibility to work for it. It won't be handed to us. One easy and effective way that you can work for liberty (in this lifetime and beyond) is to name the Libertarian Party in your will or insurance policy. For a confidential discussion of this option, simply call National LP Treasurer Deryl Martin at (931) 858-0915. Or e-mail him at: dnc@multiopro.com.

Will Carla Howell's Libertarian Campaign for Governor of Massachusetts Create More National Impact than the Last 5 Libertarian Presidential Campaigns?

10 Months Ago. Carla Howell Vs. Senator Ted Kennedy.

Carla Howell For U.S. Senate 2000 by
the numbers:

- ✓ 308,860 votes for U.S. Senate
- ✓ 40% name recognition
- ✓ 726 campaign volunteers
- ✓ 5,106 campaign donors
- ✓ \$821,362 raised
- ✓ Kept Major Party Ballot Status
- ✓ The Most Successful

Libertarian U.S. Senate
Campaign in Party history.

10 Months ago. Election Night. Live
CBS, ABC, and NBC Broadcasts of
our Election Night Celebration. Impact.

Campaigns and Elections Magazine
called Carla Howell's "small govern-
ment is beautifulsm" Massachusetts
campaign the *most* successful third
party U.S. Senate effort in 2000.

Carla Howell is running for Governor of
Massachusetts.

What's Unique About Massachusetts?

"Tax-achusetts." Bone-crushing taxation. Strangling
regulation. Big Government social engineering. The
state that gave us Michael Dukakis and Ted Kennedy.
Republican politicians support and vote for
Massachusetts' Big Government.

Weak and Divided Massachusetts Republican Party.
Barely 13% of the voters are registered Republicans. They
break into 3 factions: the Big Government Republicans,
the Social Conservatives, and the Fiscal Conservatives.

Massachusetts Republican State House Minority
Leader Francis Marini said, "We are on the verge of not
having a party in Massachusetts. We need to have it
revitalized... The two-party system is important. But it
doesn't have to be us. The Libertarians are doing well..."

Robert Hedlund (R-MA State Sen.) told the media,
"With Massachusetts Republicans it's more like the
proverbial shootout in a lifeboat." Paul Loscocco (R-
MA State Rep.) said "the Massachusetts Republican
Party is divided and there is too much party infighting."

Boston Sunday Herald, July 9, 2001:

"And for those who claim Republican conservatives
have no other place to go, remember just two words:
Carla Howell.

"Howell, who made a name for herself with strong runs

as a Libertarian for State Auditor in 1998 and U.S. Senator
in 2000, is zeroing in on a run for governor for 2002. She
would be a strong magnet for dissatisfied Republicans.

"After all, Howell got 308,860 votes — 12 percent of
the total cast — against Sen. Edward M. Kennedy and
came within a percentage point of beating the

Republican nominee, the laughable
Jack E. Robinson, in the Senate race."

Dismal Massachusetts Republican representation in state and federal offices:

Office	Total Seats	Republican Seats
U.S. Senate	2	0
U.S. Congress	10	0
Major Statewide Offices <small>Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Auditor</small>	5	1
Governor's Council	8	0
State Senate	40	6
State House	160	26

Over 71% of Massachusetts

Democrat officeholders are unopposed by Republicans.

A weak Acting Republican Governor. A Big
Government Republican. Feeble or non-existent
Republican prospects for statewide offices.

Over 51% of Massachusetts voters are registered
independent. Neither Republican nor Democrat. Free to
vote their conscience.

Our Acting Republican Governor supports Anti-Gun
Laws. She regularly abuses and neglects gun owners. We
have 1.5 million registered gun owners in Massachusetts!



**Carla
Howell**

Massachusetts Advantage for Carla Howell

In 1996, there were 3,065 registered Libertarian
voters in Massachusetts. Today — 5 years later — we're
nearing 18,000.

Gun Owners' Action League endorsed Carla Howell
for U.S. Senate. 30,000 Gun Freedom activists. NRA
affiliate (MA).

Carla Howell in the Media. The *O'Reilly Factor*.
Front Page Sunday *Boston Globe*. Nationally Televised
C-SPAN. PBS campaign documentary. Boston-area
ABC, CBS, and NBC nightly news.

Rapidly Rising vote totals for Carla Howell.

- ✓ 1998: 102,198 votes for State Auditor.
- ✓ 2000: 308,860 votes for U.S. Senate.
- ✓ 2002: ???,??? votes for Governor of Massachusetts.

Massachusetts is the place. Carla Howell is the candidate.

Will Carla Howell's Libertarian Campaign for Gov-
ernor of Massachusetts Create More National Impact
than the last 5 Libertarian Presidential Campaigns?

Will Carla Howell's recent TV appearance
on *The O'Reilly Factor* be the 1st of many
National TV appearances for her campaign for
Massachusetts Governor?

When will Carla Howell appear on
Nightline with Ted Koppel? On *Face the
Nation*? On *Meet the Press*? On *Hardball*? On
Crossfire? On *Politically Incorrect*?

When will Carla Howell be featured in
USA Today? *The Wall Street Journal*? *The
Washington Post*?

When will Carla Howell be written up in
Time Magazine? *Newsweek*? *U.S. News & World Report*?

Carla Howell's "small government is beautifulsm"
Libertarian campaign for Governor could catch fire.
Could have more National impact than the last 5
Libertarian Presidential Campaigns.

ABC, CBS, and NBC Prime TV ads. Tens of
thousands of yard signs and bumper stickers. Hundreds
of thousands of campaign fliers.

Our campaign is in your hands.

Your donation is our budget. Your donation can
make the difference. Please donate now.

LPNews8/01

small government is beautifulsm
carlahowell
Libertarian for Governor

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| I'll pay by: <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discover <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> AmEx | | |

You may donate up to \$500 in 2001.
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Wayland MA 01778

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contribution aggregate in excess of \$200. No corporate checks. Paid for by Carla Howell for Governor, R. Dennis Corrigan, Treasurer.

Affiliate News

Libertarians blast 'socialist' planning, offer a DMV solution, & fight tax-funded Grizzlies

■ ALABAMA

LP city councilman ends 'hand-holding' ordinance

A Libertarian city councilman has spearheaded the defeat of an Adamsville city ordinance requiring citizens to obtain a permit for doing minor improvement work on their own homes.

Councilman **John Rogers** said that the measure, which passed by a vote of 4-1 at the council's meeting on March 1, was a victory for property owners.

"If it's your property, you shouldn't need to ask permission to do what you want with it," he said.

Supporters of the ordinance argued that the permit is free and the regulation ensures that residents undertake "safe" improvements. But Rogers, elected in September 2000, said it was "stupid" to subject local residents to fines for doing work that costs less than \$1,000 — such as hanging a new screen door.

"Is it [the city council's] job to hold everybody's hand and make sure they don't hurt themselves?" he asked. "I think not."

■ CALIFORNIA

Libertarians hold vigil for victims of Drug War

Organized by the Political Prisoners Support Committee of the California LP, Libertarians gathered at twin vigils in Los Angeles and San Francisco on June 16 to honor victims of the government's long-running War on Drugs.

"The War on Drugs is nothing more than a political war, and the victims of this war, whether dead or alive — must never be forgotten," said **Hal Chiprin**, chairman of the committee.

After ceremonial speeches, the Los Angeles participants marched from the Federal Building in Westwood to the Memorial Gardens, where the ashes of the late author and LP member **Peter McWilliams** are interred.

McWilliams, who suffered from AIDS and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, died last June after being arrested and refused permission by the court to use medical marijuana during treatment.

"Peter McWilliams was a hero to all victims of the Drug War. It is only fitting that we pay our respects to someone who died for what he believed in," said Chiprin.



New York Libertarians protest 'ballpark pork'

■ More than a dozen Manhattan Libertarians — including LP mayoral candidate **Kenny Kramer** (center) — protest a plan to give almost \$700 million in government subsidies to professional sports teams at a rally outside Yankee Stadium on June 25, calling such proposals "ballpark pork."

Their opposition to the plan does not mean they are disloyal to the Yankees or Mets, said **Jim Lesczynski**, Manhattan LP media relations director and city council candidate, but merely that there should be a "separation of sports and state."

"We love the Yankees, but we would never ask our fellow taxpayers to bankroll a new stadium for the team," he said. "If the Yankees want a new stadium, they should use their gate receipts and television revenue to pay for it."

Travis Pahl, LP candidate for public advocate, had some advice for the city council: "Don't play games with taxpayers' hard-earned money."

■ COLORADO

El Paso Co. Libertarians oppose tax hike proposal

Libertarians in El Paso County have expressed outrage over a county government proposal to hike local taxes and keep surplus tax revenues instead of refunding the money to taxpayers.

The county government wants to boost the average homeowner's property tax by 23%, impose a take hike for road and bridge repairs, and inherit a windfall \$9 million in surplus tax dollars.

LP member **Michael Seebeck** said it is outrageous that County Commissioners are hiking taxes because "they cannot do their job responsibly."

Seebeck said that not only should surplus dollars be returned to taxpayers, but further tax increases should be rejected and tax-and-spend County Commissioners should be "shown the door."

"The Libertarian Party wants to encourage the voters of El Paso County to stand for personal and financial freedom, and to tell the county to stay out of [voters'] wallets," he said.

■ GEORGIA

LP State Chair named to vote reform commission

LP State Chair **Michael Cartwright** has been appointed as a representative to the 21st Century Vote Commission — the first time a Libertarian has been appointed to a statewide body in Georgia history.

Sworn in by Governor Roy

Barnes on June 11 at the state Capitol, Cartwright joins the 17 other appointees who will serve on the commission.

The Georgia Libertarian Party, as the only entity operating as a "political body" on the commission, was allowed a single appointment.

"[This appointment] shows that the political establishment in Georgia is aware of the growing presence of the Libertarian Party throughout the state," said Cartwright.

The main responsibility of the commission is to evaluate equipment options and implement a new, uniform statewide election system. The new voting system is expected to be in place by 2004.

■ GEORGIA

State LP offers solution to 'outrageous' DMV service

The Libertarian Party has offered a solution to the chronic problem of "outrageous" waiting

periods and long lines at the Georgia Department of Motor Vehicles: Privatize the agency.

"Under the current system, many Georgia residents must take an entire day off from work just to get their driver's license," said Georgia LP spokesman **Rob Moody** on June 20. "This is outrageous. The state should allow private companies to compete in order to provide these services."

Although the Georgia State Patrol does not keep records of average wait times, Moody said it was common to wait five hours at the DMV to renew a driver's license.

DMV services have been successfully privatized in several states, he said, including Ohio, where more than 200 private "franchises" issue new driver's licenses, license renewals, vehicle registrations, and other services.

"The best part of all? The average wait is less than 10 minutes!" he said.

■ MAINE

Polling place restriction is not needed, says LP

The state LP has announced its opposition to a proposal that would keep petitioners 250 feet away from voters at election polling places.

"The people behind this bill are pretending that petitioners are interfering with the voters, but that is just posturing," said Maine LP Chair **Mark Cenci**. "There are poll wardens at all polling places. There are seldom, if any, problems."

Endorsed by the Veteran and Legal Affairs Committee of the state legislature on April 26, Cenci said the true intention of LD 1337 is to prevent petitioners from getting enough signatures to put controversial initiatives on the ballot.

In addition Cenci said the proposal would kill the Maine LP's plan to get an education tax credit measure on the ballot in 2002. Consequently, he said concerned residents should act quickly and call or e-mail their state representatives.

"[The bill] can be defeated, but it won't be easy," he said.

■ MASSACHUSETTS

Mandatory seatbelt law: 'Disrespectful,' says LP

Charging that mandatory seatbelt laws are "pointless and disrespectful," state LP officers have cheered the defeat of a proposal that would have enacted such a law.

S-1211, which passed the state Senate in April, would have directly subjected drivers who were caught without wearing their seatbelt to a police citation and fine. It was defeated by an evenly divided House on May 29 by a vote of 76-76.

"Drivers know the risks when they fail to wear a seatbelt," said LP State Chair **Elias Israel**. "Having the government poke its nose into everyone's car is not only

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

Read it on <http://www.L4L.org> or send \$3.00 to Libertarians for Life
13424 Hathaway Drive #18
Wheaton, MD 20906 - (301) 460-4141
libertarian@erols.com

costly, it's pointless and disrespectful."

Proposals for mandatory seatbelt laws are a "perpetual issue" in Massachusetts because the federal government offers highway funds to states with such regulations, said Israel.

"But [Libertarians] hope these restrictions will continue to be struck down," he said.

■ MASSACHUSETTS

Treatment versus prison is not Drug War solution

A state senator's suggestion to sentence drug users to treatment instead of prison has drawn criticism from Libertarians, who claim the proposal is "just another kind of war" on peaceful citizens.

"[Senator James P.] Jajuga is not proposing decriminalization, just treatment rather than imprisonment," said **Kamal Jain**, vice chair of the Massachusetts LP. "Forced treatment is just as immoral as imprisonment."

Jajuga made the proposal in April, saying prisons are overcrowded and more emphasis should be placed on rehabilitation.

But Jain suggested a simpler solution to the drug issue: Individual liberty and personal responsibility.

"Hundreds of thousands of lives are harmed by 'approved' drugs such as alcohol and tobacco each year," he said. "[However], prohibition simply does not work and makes things worse."

■ MICHIGAN

State Chair: Internet tax proposal should be killed

Testifying before the state House Tax Policy committee, LP State Chair **Michael Corliss** voiced opposition to the "Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Administration" bill, saying it could lead to a tax on Internet purchases.

The bill, SB-433, authorizes four Michigan representatives to attend a National Conference of State Legislatures meeting, to negotiate the imposition of a uniform tax across several states.

"The Michigan Constitution specifically gives [the legislature] the power to levy and collect taxes [from Michigan citizens]," said Corliss on June 28. But if SB-433 becomes law, that power would be unconstitutionally turned over to other states.

Although no vote is scheduled on the bill at this time, Corliss said he and other Libertarians would remain vigilant.

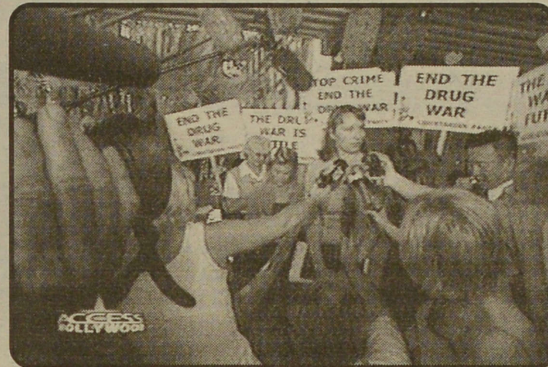
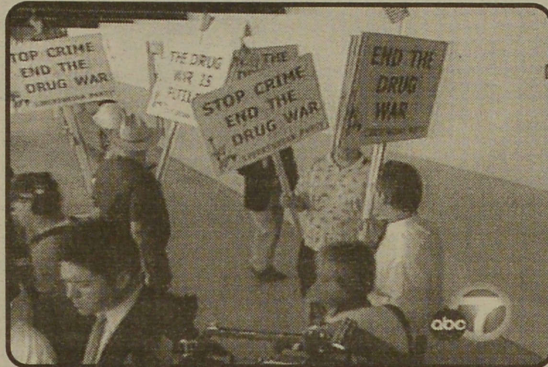
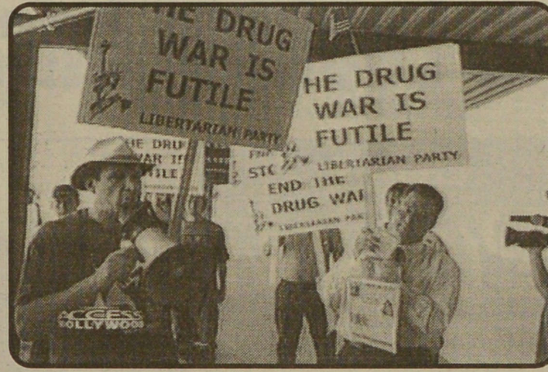
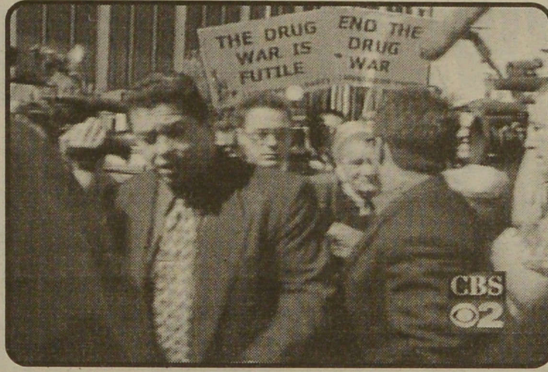
"We just want to see cyberspace continue to grow and prosper as a free trade zone," he said.

■ MISSOURI

St. Louis party fights tax-funded stadium

St. Louis Libertarians have announced opposition to a tax-funded stadium for the St. Louis Cardinals baseball team — demanding, instead, a "separation of sport and state."

A St. Louis LP committee



California Libertarians protest at Robert Downey, Jr. trial

■ A group of California Libertarians staged a protest rally at the hearing for actor Robert Downey, Jr. on drug charges — garnering nationwide television publicity.

Shown here, members of the Central Los Angeles LP appear on the nationally broadcast shows *Entertainment Tonight* and *Access Hollywood*, as well as local TV news channels.

The purpose of the protest, said Mark Selzer, was to get "publicity for the LP. Get the fact we exist out to people who do not watch CNN or Fox News. [And to show that] the Drug War is futile and that the Libertarian Party is a live, vibrant organization that cares about people."

Participating Libertarians — who carried signs that said "End the Drug War" — included Irv Rubin, Philip Heath, Kevin Dooley, Paul Studier, and Herb Peters.

One of Hollywood's most notorious "substance abusers," Downey has been in and out of courtrooms, rehab centers, and jail for the past several years. He has been appearing on the Fox comedy/drama *Ally McBeal* for the past year, and had previously been nominated for an Academy Award for his role in *Chaplin*.

voted on June 12 to join the Coalition Against Public Funding for Stadiums, an organization that opposes the city's plan to allocate \$4.2 million a year over 30 years to pay off stadium bonds.

"We refuse to give subsidies to rich businessmen at the expense of overburdened city taxpayers," said **Kevin Babcock**, chair of the St. Louis LP.

The proposal does not require voter approval because it does not call for a new tax. In order to force the proposal onto the ballot in November, the coalition must collect 20,000 valid signatures from city residents by July 16.

"Let the voters decide how they want to spend their tax dollars, not the politicians, and not the team owners," Babcock said. "It's not their money. It's ours."

■ NEW YORK

Urban planning meeting is failed 'central-planning'

Monroe County Libertarians have criticized an urban-planning conference co-sponsored by the city of Rochester, saying it promoted a "socialist, central-planning approach to economics and urban development" that has failed in the past.

"The decline of this country's urban areas correlates with an explosion in government spending and regulation," said Monroe County LP Chair **Sara Gillis**, adding that such programs only benefit "perpetually-employed bu-

reaucrats and politically well-connected local interests."

The conference, which took place at the University of Rochester from June 21 to June 24, included such workshops as "Urban Sprawl and Social Justice," and "Planning in the Post-Ghoul-ish Giuliani Period: Promoting A Progressive Urban Agenda."

The best public policy for growth and development, Libertarians said, is a respect for economic liberty and private property — not government planning.

"[Limiting housing supply] drives up the price," said County LP Public Policy Chairman **Ed Trefzger**. "This causes most harm to the community's neediest citizens, the very people that 'anti-sprawl' proponents claim they want to help."

■ NORTH CAROLINA

State party will target legislators who voted no

The state LP has announced it will target legislators who voted against a bill to move the state petitioning deadline back from early June to late July, saying

that the bill's defeat has "lit a fire" under Libertarians.

On June 5, the House defeated S-10 by 71-45. Only one of 31 Republican representatives voted in favor of the bill.

"Republicans saw us as a threat and overwhelmingly voted against us," said North Carolina LP executive director **Sean Haugh**. "This bill made such minor ballot access reforms that it's hard to believe it couldn't pass."

Haugh said he was surprised that certain legislators openly admitted there should only be two parties on the ballot — and said the state LP would seek to run candidates against those legislators in the next election cycle.

"We're going to get on the ballot regardless," he said. "All they did was make us angry."

■ TENNESSEE

Shelby Co. Libertarians: Stop tax-funded Grizzlies

Shelby County Libertarians have challenged a proposal to spend about \$250 million on a basketball arena intended to lure the NBA Vancouver Grizzlies to Memphis.

"What in the world does government have to do with sports?" LP Secretary **Dick Shaw** asked County Commissioner Tommy Hart, guest speaker at the group's May 29 meeting in Memphis.

At the meeting, Hart said he is "sympathetic" to taxpayers, but will wait until the details of the

proposal are fully known before committing himself to a decision. The county government is still debating the amount of taxpayer funds required to finance the project.

But Shaw said private individuals and businesses would invest in the arena if there was a real consumer demand. "Even if it was a fantastic deal, I don't think government should be involved," he said. "It's not a function of government."

■ TEXAS

Curfew regulation is a rights violation, says LP

Despite vocal opposition by League City Libertarians, the city council has reinstated an expired city curfew regulation at its May 22 meeting.

"This law is applicable to people who are otherwise not harming anyone or their property," charged **Steven Multhaup**, former LP candidate for Texas State Representative.

The regulation, which had been in place for seven years, bars individuals under 17 years old from being in a public place between midnight and 5 a.m., and between 9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on weekdays. Minors in violation of the rule are cited whether or not they are accompanied by a parent or a guardian.

Although some curfew supporters argued it was necessary to prevent teenage theft and vandalism, Libertarians said that the right to set a curfew belongs to a parent — not a city council.

"This is a violation of constitutional rights," said Multhaup. "It sunsets again in three years, and we'll oppose it then as well."

■ TEXAS

Lubbock Co. Libertarians will fight no-smoking bill

Lubbock County Libertarians will lead the charge against an anti-smoking ordinance that was narrowly passed by the city council on June 14.

By a vote of 4-3, the council decreed it to be illegal for private businesses — other than bars, sports grills, and bingo locales — to permit smoking in their establishments.

"Since a bare majority of the city council and [other special interests] have chosen to infringe upon the rights of a majority of Lubbock business owners and their customers, the Lubbock County Libertarian Party [will seek to repeal] the smoking ordinance," said Lubbock County LP Chair **David DeLamar**.

A referendum campaign to put the issue to a vote in a November special election has gotten widespread public support, said DeLamar, and obtaining the 1,800 required signatures should not pose much of a problem.

"We are highly confident that the voters of Lubbock will defend property rights and overturn this unfair, intrusive, and socialistic ordinance," he said.

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Nancy Lord: Looking backward, looking forward

By Nancy Lord

1992 LIBERTARIAN V.P. CANDIDATE

■ **Editor's note:** Nancy Lord was the 1992 Libertarian Party candidate for vice president, sharing the ticket with Andre Marrou. Here's her personal look back at what's happened in her life since that campaign.

It has now been 10 years since the Libertarian Party honored me with its nomination for Vice President of the Libertarian Party at the Chicago convention. It seems like yesterday, because of all the wild and crazy things that have happened since then.

Now a patent attorney in the Lake Tahoe area, I write patents for a large nutritional supplement manufacturer and other innovative medical practitioners. I have always had a gift at synthesizing and explaining medical literature, whether as a pharmaceutical executive, an expert witness, or a criminal defense attorney. Now my gift is used in a respectable way.

As my client base industries — alternative medicine and hemp — grew up around me, I went from protecting my client against the Feds to protecting their profit margins.

My 1992 campaign was an exciting and interesting time. To this day, I occasionally meet someone who says, "I remember you. I voted for you." Some of the friends I made that year are still my good friends.

And for those wonderful Libertarians who opened their homes to me, if our paths never crossed again, I thank you again now. While many of you have not seen much of me, I still fight for freedom every day.

After it was all over, I had to decide what to do. I had so enjoyed radio and television appearances that I considered giving up law. But in the end, I picked up my legal career where I had left it off.

First felony case

Luckily, I had passed the Georgia Bar Exam during the campaign, so I hung up a shingle in Atlanta where I had followed my former husband, Mike Tanner. I joined the firm of a well-known defense attorney, and won my first multi-count felony in March of 1993. It was a murder case of a drug-related shooting at a car wash in the middle of the night.

I did not tell my co-counsel until after it was over that I had never tried a felony before — he was not happy, but not angry either since the client was convicted of only a weapons charge.

Sadly, the campaign had destroyed my first marriage, and I struggled with being alone again as my fledgling practice limped along. Like most lawyers, I won some and lost some. My most disappointing loss was the case of

First Person a personal essay

Southern Lights and Hydroponics, a hydroponics store charged with conspiracy to manufacture marijuana based on sales of light bulbs and other supplies to growers.

My client's story is featured in *Shattered Lives: Portraits From America's Drug War* by Mikki Norris, Chris Conrad and Virginia Resner.

Nationally publicized

In June of 1994, I had my first major, nationally publicized court victory, the case of U.S. v. Sless.

Rodger Sless was charged with 16 counts of FDA, customs, and trademark violations for selling GH3, a sought-after rejuvenating compound that originated in Romania. Our defense: The FDA's failure to make an official ruling that it was a "drug."

Dr. Mary Ruwart and Dr. Joan Priestly testified masterfully in Rodger's defense. After their testimony, we were all so confident of an acquittal that we took photographs of our group outside the courthouse before the case finished. (Roger features the case on his website, www.realgh3.com.)

The year, 1994, was when the Dietary Supplement and Health Education Act passed — after the FDA attempted to regulate vitamins as prescription drugs. Word of Rodger's case spread quickly through the supplement and alternative medicine community and suddenly I was famous, at least to some.

Corporations retained me and I hired an associate and a secretary. I was a rising star in legal circles, until my thirst for freedom and my Libertarian need to fight the government got in the way of my career.

In 1995, I successfully defended a Nevada florist charged with jury tampering and obstruction of justice because she had placed FIJA (Fully Informed Jury Amendment) flyers on cars parked at the U.S. District Court. The government dropped it to a diversion when they saw the evidence we planned to introduce — the whole FIJA message.

Living out West

Then, in Fresno, there was the acquittal of three hemp protesters who called themselves "Three Hawk Stand." Visiting Nevada and Northern California made me wonder why I was in Georgia when I had always dreamed of living out West.

I put my furniture into storage and headed west in April of



■ **Nancy Lord:** From vice presidential candidate to patent attorney — it's been a "wild and crazy" decade.

1996, stopping first in Los Angeles where I had a friend to stay with and a solid client. Reno was my ultimate goal, but it was an aborted move.

I had left with three commitments to speak back East at Libertarian conventions and at a Waco anniversary event in Texas. The day before the Ohio convention, a friend in Georgia was arrested on the first of the militia bomb conspiracy cases.

J.J. Johnson (then, a militia leader) asked me to go back to Georgia to defend that mutual friend. The rest is history. We fell in love. But by February, I was out West again alone, working for the same client and living in Las Vegas.

Spring of 1997 was difficult, and summer was worse. In May, J.J. joined me in Las Vegas and we have lived happily ever since.

But in July, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. I gratefully accepted a part-time, contracted position from my LA client, now a leading nutritional supplement distributor.

Startling change

Returning to this company was startling; the industry had grown up. Everyone wore suits and nobody worried about an FDA raid. My duties were of a typical corporate counsel — customer service, new products, and intellectual property. On occasion, I took

a federal case and walked them all — an ozone clinic operator in Pennsylvania, a marijuana conspiracy in Michigan.

In 1998, I was thrilled to learn that I had been unanimously elected to the Board of Directors of NORML and I joined the Board of FIJA a short time later.

I still had no real desire to leave my corporate position. The company had patents and other IP (intellectual property) issues, so I volunteered to act as liaison with the outside patent attorney.

After a few phone calls, that attorney noticed my ability to understand and explain medical literature. He asked if I was a patent attorney and encouraged me to become one. My client sent me to patent school and I passed the test on my first try.

Started division

In April 2001, I joined the Sierra Patent Group, Ltd., in Stateline, Nevada. It is a fabulous firm with an office surrounded by pine trees. Most of the attorneys have computer, mechanical, and electrical backgrounds — and I started the pharmaceutical and nutraceutical division.

We also work with the hemp industry, now enjoying the same growth as the alternative medicine industry enjoyed in the mid-90's. There are a lot of exciting hemp products that should be protected by a patent or trademark.

Of course, I still take cases in other areas — especially if they involve hemp, alternative medicine, or firearms.

J.J. is now Editor In Chief of www.SierraTimes.com, a popular Internet news service. He's broken a number of hot stories, most recently the battle over water in Klamath Falls, Oregon. He can also still be heard on the radio on a regular basis.

I still cannot believe it's been 10 years since I was nominated.

LP joins fight against Shays-Meehan

Continued from Page 1

challenge the powers-that-be.

"And given that the House vote was relatively close, I'd like to think that our last-minute lobbying effort may have swayed a few fence-sitters. We're not the only grassroots group that was active on this issue, but we're one of the few that has the ability to galvanize tens of thousands of e-mail savvy people very quickly."

U.S. Representatives effectively killed Shays-Meehan — which is the House version of the McCain-Feingold bill in the U.S. Senate — on a procedural rule by a vote of 228-203. The rule would have required the House to individually consider 22 amendments to Shays-Meehan, which support-

STEVE DASBACH:

"Our last-minute efforts may have swayed a few fence-sitters."

ers said would doom the bill.

The bill isn't technically dead, though: It merely returned to the House Rules Committee. Supporters said they will try to get the bill considered again by the full House before year's end.

But if Shays-Meehan, or the more "moderate" Republican-backed Ney-Wynn bill, does come back, Libertarians will be ready, said Dasbach.

Bad news

"These bills are bad news for third parties and for any American who supports the First Amendment," he said. "Libertarians will remain vigilant, and will be prepared to fight them again."

The Shays-Meehan and Ney-Wynn bills were also opposed by Harry Browne's RealCampaign Reform.org, which sent an e-mail lobbying message to supporters and got several thousand people to sign an online petition against the legislation.

How to Make Liberty Happen Now

For the Next Elections: Instant Libertarians

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

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

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

LIBERTARIANS
16%
RASMUSSEN SURVEY

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The Issues

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

Tampa: Big Brother with video cameras

The city of Tampa has installed a network of high-tech security cameras on public streets to monitor everyone who passes by — a repugnant police-state tactic that should be outlawed, Libertarians say.

"This program is an outrage because innocent Americans have the fundamental right to be free of surveillance by police cameras when they are walking in a public place," said Steve Dasbach, LP national director.

"If politicians and police in Tampa are allowed to continue this program of warrantless video surveillance, all of America could soon turn into the equivalent of a prison — where innocent people are the inmates, constantly under observation by police who are acting like 24-hour prison guards."

In late June, Tampa installed a surveillance system that uses a "face-printing" computer program. Police set up a network of 36 cameras that scan crowds in the Florida city's entertainment district and match the results against a database of mug shots of people with outstanding arrest warrants.

But other cities should refrain from following Tampa's lead, said Dasbach, because constant surveillance strikes at the heart of Americans' most basic right: The right to be left alone.

"Big Brother has arrived in Tampa and he's got a video camera," he said. "People must let politicians know that Big Brother is not welcome; not in Tampa, and not in any American city."

'Eagle's Eye' goes Postal on privacy

The next time you go to the Post Office to purchase a money order, you could get reported to the federal government as a potential money-launderer, the Libertarian Party warned.

It's part of a massive customer surveillance program called "Under the Eagle's Eye," which has been covertly monitoring Americans for the past four years.

"Instead of simply delivering mail, the Post Office is teaching its employees to spy like an eagle on its customers," said Steve Dasbach. "And you could end up in a government database as a potential criminal without even knowing it."

The Under the Eagle's Eye program trains postal clerks to watch for customers who act "suspiciously" while purchasing money orders, making wire transfers, or buying cash cards. According to guidelines, "suspicious" activity could include counting money in line or purchasing a large money order.

But a customer does not need to meet any legal definition of suspicious activity to be reported, according to the Under the Eagle's Eye manual. Instead, "if it seems suspicious to you, then it is suspicious," the manual tells postal employees.

Now that the Under the Eagle's Eye program has become public knowledge, Americans should rise up and demand an end to Post Office spying, said Dasbach.

"Unfortunately, the Eagle has landed — right on top of your privacy," he said. "It's time to abolish this un-American spy scheme, and ground the Eagle for good."

Doctors: Three times as deadly as guns

Doctors kill three times as many people every year as guns do — which is why the new head of the American Medical Association should stop crusading against guns and target incompetent physicians instead, say Libertarians.

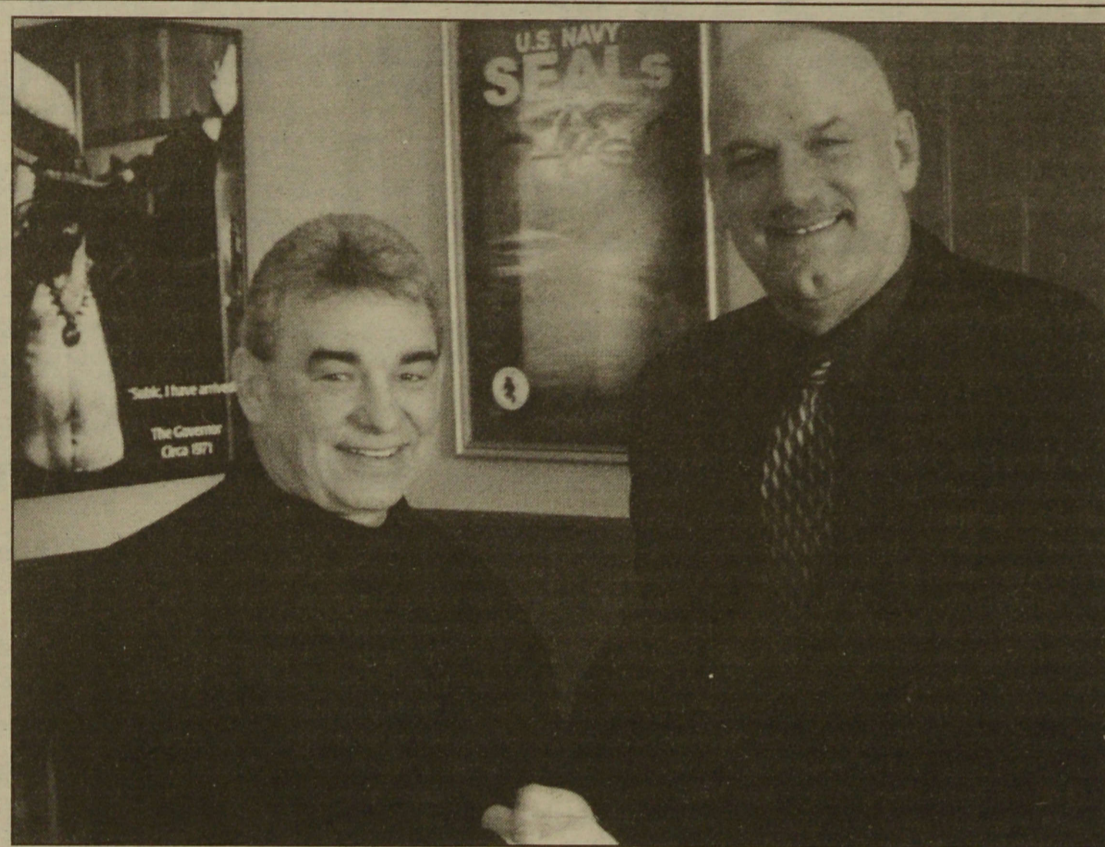
"Message to the AMA: Doctor control would save far more lives than gun control," said Steve Dasbach. "Instead of adopting a political agenda and working to eliminate the Second Amendment, doctors should adopt a medical agenda and work to eliminate deadly, derelict doctors."

In June, Dr. Richard Corlin sparked a huge controversy by adopting "gun safety" as his platform when he was inaugurated as president of the American Medical Association. Citing "an epidemic of handgun violence," Corlin demanded more studies of trigger locks and ways to reduce accidental shootings.

But Corlin failed to mention that doctors kill three times as many Americans each year as guns do, said Dasbach.

"According to a report by the Institute of Medicine, 98,000 Americans are killed every year by medical errors," he noted. "By contrast, 30,708 gun-related deaths occurred in 1998 — meaning doctors are more than three times as deadly as guns."

The fact is, gun violence isn't a medical issue, it's a criminal issue, said Dasbach. "People who use a gun to commit a crime should be arrested and prosecuted — which is the job of the police, not doctors," he said. "Honest, peaceful gun owners should be left alone by misguided doctors masquerading as politicians."



Ed Thompson gets gubernatorial advice

■ Ed Thompson (left), the Libertarian mayor of Tomah, Wisconsin, meets with Minnesota Governor Jesse Ventura in April. Their topic of discussion: Thompson's possible run for governor of Wisconsin in 2002. "[Ventura] told me to do it — and to win," said Thompson. "That's easy enough to say. I haven't made that decision. I enjoy being mayor of Tomah, but I'd like to see what a third-party candidate [for governor] can do." Thompson spent 50 minutes with Ventura at the governor's office in the Minnesota capitol, and got suggestions about how to run a successful third-party campaign. Thompson is the brother of Tommy Thompson, the four-term governor of Wisconsin, who stepped down in 2001 after President George W. Bush appointed him Health and Human Services Secretary.

San Mateo LP helps save taxpayers \$223m with bond measure defeat

San Mateo Libertarians have saved local taxpayers about \$223 million by leading the charge against several new spending proposals in a June 5 special election in California.

"In San Mateo County, David met Goliath, and, for the greater part, David prevailed," said Christopher Schmidt, vice chair of the San Mateo LP.

Libertarians helped defeat three of five tax and bond measures that would have raised money for schools and libraries — and saddled "residents with millions in new public debt," he said.

In the special elections:

■ Voters rejected a bond proposal in Sequoia Union High School District, which failed with 65.56% of the vote. Such special elections to increase taxes or to fund bonds require 66% of the vote to pass.

"This was by far the largest tax proposal at \$170 million, plus interest," Schmidt said. "We were the only organized opposition to this tax."

■ Voters rejected a bond proposal in the San Bruno Library District, which failed with 56.71% of the vote.

■ Voters rejected a parcel tax

CHRIS SCHMIDT:

*"David met
Goliath, and for
the greater part,
David prevailed."*

proposal in the Belmont/Redwood Shores Elementary School District, which failed with 58.92% of the vote.

However, pro-tax forces won two of the elections: A bond proposal in the Millbrae Library District, which passed with 69.15% of the vote; and a parcel tax proposal in Atherton, which passed with 67.32% of the vote.

The latter two elections were marked by very low turn-out, said Schmidt.

"Only 21% of Millbrae residents voted for the measure, but, with the low turnout, that was sufficient to saddle all of the city's 22,000 residents with millions in new public debt," he said. "Similarly, only 25% of Atherton voters

approved their tax.

"The vote counts show why it is so important to vote in these special elections. Most of the voters don't show up, so every vote does count."

To fight against the proposals, Schmidt wrote arguments against all five measures, which appeared in the county ballot pamphlet.

Only opposition

In addition, San Mateo Libertarians purchased ads in county editions of the Independent Newspaper Group to point out "that the LPSM is the only countywide organized opposition to higher taxes," said Schmidt.

"Ultimately, of course, it was the participating voters who defeated the larger measures — but we articulated the reasons for them to do so," he said.

Unfortunately, said Schmidt, these new tax proposals will probably appear again on the November ballot — and stopping them will be more difficult. In regularly scheduled elections, the threshold for passage is lowered to 55%.

"We will keep on fighting, though, to defeat these taxes," he vowed.

Libertarians join anti-cancer research project

A team of Libertarians has joined the fight against cancer by donating spare computer power to aid a research project that seeks to find a cure for the deadly disease.

Organized by activist David Speight, the "Libertarian Team" signed onto the Intel-United Devices Cancer Research Project on May 16.

The project "borrows" the spare computer cycles of member's personal computers to test billions of molecules against cancer-implicated proteins.

Libertarians care

Bert Wiener, a software engineer and a Libertarian Team member, said the project is a good way to demonstrate that Libertarians care about the unfortunate.

"This is an extremely valuable thing to participate in because thousands of tech-savvy people visit [the project] site every day," he said. "It's great exposure for the Libertarian Party — for a good cause."

When a member signs up, a central mainframe computer downloads a PC-sized section to that person's computer for processing.

The processing work is done when the computer is not being used, and, once the work has been done, the finished product is uploaded to the main site.

The Cancer Research Project has more than 480,000 members, and has gotten press coverage from ABCNews.com, the *New York Times*, *PC World* magazine, and others.

"IT'S GREAT exposure for the Libertarian Party."

"I have two computers going at work on this project," Wiener said. "It's free to download the program, and it processes the work when your computer isn't being used so it's convenient."

If the Libertarian Team can grow to at least 2,000 members, the team will appear on the "Top 25 list" at the site.

Although the team has only five members at present, Wiener said the project is slated to continue until next summer — so

there is plenty of time for members to sign onto the effort.

"We have a long way to go, but we've also just begun," he said. "It is definitely worth it for Libertarians to check it out."

The project is being conducted by the Department of Chemistry at the University of Oxford in England and the National Foundation for Cancer Research.

For more information, visit: <http://members.ud.com>.

For information about the Libertarian Team, visit: <http://members.ud.com/services/teams/> and type in "Libertarian."

Fylstra resigns as LP vice chair

Continued from Page 4
mended someone to fill his vacated position: Current At-Large LNC member Ken Bisson.

"Ken has the ability, the dedication, and the respect of his colleagues needed to fulfill the role of vice chair," he said. "It is up to the full LNC, of course, to vote upon the appointment of a new vice chair. But I'd like to ask my LNC colleagues to support my recommendation and vote for Ken to fulfill this role."

Bisson said he would be interested in the position.

"If [the LNC decides] to seat me as vice chair, I will work diligently to accomplish the tasks Dan points out should be finished," he said. "I would consider it an honor to receive support."

Other possible contenders for the vice chair's position include Massachusetts LP activist Dr. George Phillies, LNC Region Four Representative Michael "MG" Gilson de Lemos, and former New Hampshire Libertarian State Representative Don Gorman.

Majority vote

The Libertarian National Committee is expected to name a new vice chair at its August 25-26, 2001 meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada. Under LP bylaws, a majority vote of LNC members is required to select a replacement vice chair.

Fylstra was a founding editor of the computer magazine *BYTE*, and his software company, VisiCorp, was behind VisiCalc, the first electronic spreadsheet. Prior to his election as vice chair, he served as the LNC Alternate Representative from Region 2 (California and Nevada).

Who is Ilana Freedman?

Last year, I ran for State Senate in Massachusetts, a notoriously Democratic stronghold. I ran against a powerful, 10-year Democratic incumbent with deep pockets and a strong machine. It was my first political race, and volunteers were scarce. In spite of all this, I received 25% of the vote, the highest percentage for any Libertarian State Senate candidate in the country.

Next year, we expect to have an open Congressional seat in my district. I am more experienced, and I have a strong and committed organization that is growing every day. I've proven I can connect with the voters. This is a race I can win!

The people of Massachusetts are ready for change. They are tired of high taxes and big government. They are tired of voting in uncontested elections. They are ready to take back their lives. So I'm not just running to make a statement — I'm running to win! And I need your help!



A Libertarian in Congress!

The pundits say, "It can't be done." Help me prove them wrong! In order to beat the Democratic party machine, I need a powerful, high-visibility campaign, and that requires money!

My goal is to raise two million dollars. The campaign has already begun. Your contribution now will help send a Libertarian to Washington in 2002.

Isn't it time?

<http://www.ilana.org>

e-mail: ilana@ilana.org

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The Review

Government's tangling tethers

Tethered Citizens: Time to Repeal the Welfare State, by Sheldon Richman. Future of Freedom Foundation, 140 pages, softbound. \$15.95. Available at www.fff.org.

Reviewed by Jonathan Trager
LP NEWS STAFF WRITER

Imagine that you were tied by invisible strings, like a marionette doll, to a puppet master who manipulates your actions in countless ways.

No, this isn't the plot of a new movie by the director of *The Sixth Sense*. It's the subject of a new book called *Tethered Citizens: Time to Repeal the Welfare State*, and it's a true story.

Written by Sheldon Richman, editor for the Foundation for Economic Education, the book is an account of the ways that Americans are tied to their government in a web of regulations, programs, and subsidies — all to benefit our own "welfare."

Richman insightfully points out that, contrary to popular opinion, the welfare state does not merely encompass poverty programs. In fact, any government transfer from producers to consumers is part of the government welfare machine — about 64% of the \$1.9 trillion federal budget.

Citizens are tethered to government for a variety of purposes such as education loans to students, business subsidies to employers, benefits to veterans, retirement income to the elderly, etc. And while enormously expensive, Richman says the cost of the welfare state can't simply be measured dollars.

"The other, more important cost is in terms of lost freedom and independence," he writes. "The beneficiaries become less human, because man's distinctive characteristic is the ability, thanks to his rational faculty, to chart his own course. There's nothing humane about the welfare state."

The book is divided into two parts: A historical documentation of the welfare state, and a moral argument against its legitimacy. Both are chock full of titillating tidbits of information.

For example, Richman points out that although Adolph Hitler didn't become Chancellor of Germany until the 1930s, the centralization of power under the socialist welfare system began in the late 1800s. In other words, had Hitler risen to power about 50 years earlier, it would have been practically impossible for him to carry out Nazi atrocities on so grand a scale, since the governmental power would not have been there to exploit.

Richman then shifts the focus to America, and the influence of Edward Bellamy on the rise of "progressive" thought. Bellamy championed the ideal of an army of citizens in blind allegiance to their government in his book *Looking Forward*.

But halfway into this book, I found myself wondering, "When is Richman going to pass moral judgment on the welfare statists?" After all, articulating the moral case for liberty is FFF's bread and butter, as per their motto "We don't compromise."

The second half of the book didn't disappoint.

A delicious highlight finds Richman beating up on conservatives for implicitly accepting the legitimacy of the Welfare State, saying that conservative spokesmen are "clearly uneasy with individualism despite their occasional limited rhetorical support."

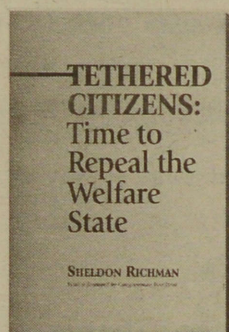
"We should not be surprised that the leading figures in the Republican Party never challenge the foundation of the welfare state," he writes. "No wonder the vaunted Republican revolution of 1995 was a mirage. Although they declare themselves opponents of big government, Republicans have long accepted such entrenched welfare state programs as Social Security, Medicare, unemployment insurance, and the minimum wage."

In addition, Richman arms Libertarians against the false accusation of wanting to destroy poor people's "safety net."

For example, did you know that Americans made \$260 billion in charitable donations last year? Richman shows that charities such as the Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity, and the United Way are more capable of caring for the needs of the truly indigent in society than government could ever hope to be.

While tedious during times of lengthy documentation — one could skip most of the details about Otto Von Bismarck and not lose much overall — *Tethered Citizens* is a worthwhile book. In addition to interesting historical facts, it's full of Alexis de Tocqueville quotations (and what Libertarian doesn't love those?).

In *Tethered Citizens*, Sheldon Richman aptly demonstrates that if we don't sever our entangling ties to government, we may soon lose our remaining freedoms.



Scottsdale Libertarian Alliance works for 'culture of freedom'

Libertarian-led Alliance fights city council regulations, waste

A new organization dedicated to moving public policy in a pro-freedom direction has emerged in Arizona: The Scottsdale Libertarian Alliance (SLA).

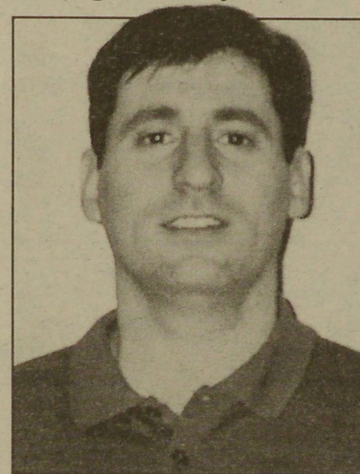
Incorporated by Libertarian Party members Bill Lynch and Nicholas Damask on March 10, the SLA advocates a "culture of freedom" for the town.

"We believe in the importance of free market capitalism, economic opportunity, property rights, and social inclusion and tolerance," said Lynch, the group's 32-year-old president. "[And] where city government taxation, regulations, and controls are significantly reduced or eliminated on all Scottsdale citizens."

Freedom of action

The organization isn't officially affiliated with the Arizona LP because the two founders want "complete freedom of action" to pursue their goals, he said — but the organization "firmly supports" the official party agenda.

The SLA has several specific goals, said Lynch, including educating citizens on the harmful effects of government regulations, running Libertarians for city council and other offices, eliminat-



■ Alliance co-founder Bill Lynch: The organization will work to "support freedom and property rights."

ing local taxes, sponsoring pro-liberty initiatives, and cutting waste in the city's \$900 million budget.

"We are setting our goals high, but when it comes to freedom, the goals can never be too high," he said.

The SLA has already battled the city council on a couple of key issues, said Lynch — including organized opposition in June to a proposed ordinance that would keep large businesses such as Wal-Mart out of the northern part

of Scottsdale.

"Elitists wanted to keep big businesses out of the area because they didn't want the large, 'ugly' buildings and traffic that accompanies economic growth," he explained.

Although the ordinance passed the city council by a unanimous vote of 7-0, Lynch said the SLA learned from the experience and gained more members for its "support list," which now boasts about 440 members.

Condemn property

Presently, the SLA is fighting an attempt by the local government to condemn private property under an "eminent domain" power. According to Lynch, the local government wants to condemn 14 properties slated for residential construction and include them as part of 16,000 acres of a nature preserve.

"[The city council] wants to trample on the rights of property owners who don't want to sell their land," he said. "That's not freedom — it's tyranny."

However, Lynch said the SLA's biggest challenge will take place in March 2002. That is the date when three of the seven city

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'Naked' California radio talk show host signs up as a registered Libertarian

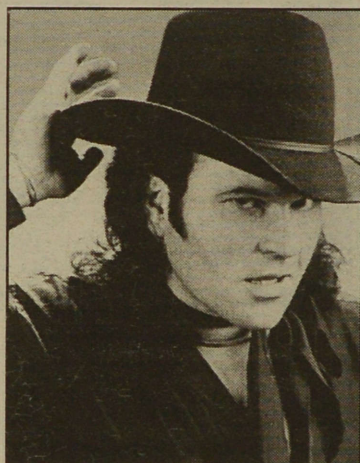
A controversial radio talk show host who specializes in "naked radio" has become a registered member of the Libertarian Party.

On May 24, Arquimedes Garcia, a host on KSJS Radio (90.5 FM) in San Jose, California, signed a Libertarian voter registration form on the air.

Garcia, who calls himself just "Arquimedes" while hosting his Naked Radio Show, said he was "fed up with the two old political parties and had decided to leave the Democratic Party and register Libertarian," said longtime LP activist Marvin B. Rudin, who joined Arquimedes on the show.

Courage to change

"He had me on as an invited guest representing the LP to hand him a registration form and welcome him into the party," said Rudin. "I told him I admired his wisdom at seeing through the Republicrat's big government anti-freedom policies and his courage to change in front of his audience."



■ Radio talk show host Arquimedes Garcia: His views are "closer to Libertarian than any other party."

"He said it was easy — he hadn't changed his views, but recognized that they were closer to Libertarian than any other party."

Rudin said Arquimedes is "not pure Libertarian in some of his views — [but] remember, we want voters who are closer to the Libertarian [political quadrant],

even if not pure."

Arquimedes's show broadcasts every Thursday from 5:00 to 7:00 pm on San Jose University's student-run radio station.

The unorthodox name of his show — Naked Radio — comes not from nudity, but from his willingness to "strip [guests] down" by asking them pointed questions, said Arquimedes.

Ever-oppressive

Although he is a brand-new registered Libertarian voter, Arquimedes has held libertarian views for some time. On his website — www.nakedradio.net — he critiques "an ever-oppressive government" that is "taxing us, preventing our self-evident, Creator-given rights from manifesting naturally."

Arquimedes is one of about a dozen talk radio show hosts who have either joined the Libertarian Party or registered Libertarian over the past few years. Other recent Libertarian hosts include Art Bell, Neal Boortz, "Lionel," Irv Homer, and Dr. Roger Libby.

Steinport, 21, wins school board seat

Continued from Page 3

provided training and consulting services for the Steinport campaign, said Azzaro.

"Boy, are we glad we did!" he said. "As you might imagine, we are very proud of his victory."

Steinport said he won his race despite being widely known as a Libertarian.

"Most [voters] had heard I was a Libertarian and asked me about it," he said. "I told them I was, and that it completely glibed

with my plans for the district. They didn't mind at all."

Steinport was also endorsed by the *Grand Rapid Press*, and was supported by several community groups and PTAs.

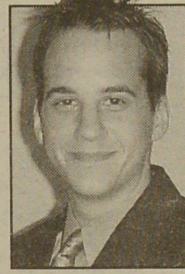
This was the second run for Steinport, who missed being elected by a few hundred votes in 1999.

"The kind of tenacity that Jeff has displayed by coming back to win this year should serve as an inspiration to former Libertarian

candidates everywhere," said Azzaro.

Although confident he will be able to forge a coalition with other board members, Steinport said the job will be a challenge.

"With some local schools clos-



■ Steinport: He shows tenacity.

ing down lately because of budget crunches, I have my work cut out for me," he said. "But I'm looking forward to it."

As a school board member, Steinport said he will work for decentralization, fiscal responsibility, and contracting out government school services to private companies.

In another Michigan race featuring a young Libertarian, Jason Miller fell short in a race for the non-partisan Hudsonville School Board. Miller, 18, won 14% in a four-way race for two seats, finishing fourth.

Also, in Massachusetts, three

Libertarians were elected or re-elected to office in local elections in May and June.

In Plympton, Jack O'Leary was elected to a 5-year, non-partisan term on the Planning Board on May 5. He had previously served as an appointed official on that board.

"In order to succeed as a political force, we need a base in local politics," he said.

In Plymouth, Jay Beauregard was re-elected as a Town Meeting Member, while in Wareham, Linwood A. Gay was re-elected as Moderator of the Onset Fire District for a 12th term.

Israel runs for LP Chair

Continued from Page 3

sure that national, state, and local Libertarians actively support both our flagship campaigns — high-profile, party-building races — and grassroots campaigns [such as] electable Libertarians in winnable races," he said.

■ **More elected Libertarians.** "By Election Day 2004, I believe we can and should have twice as many elected Libertarians as we do today," he said.

Pointing to his history of technical and managerial positions with firms such as Eastman Kodak and Sun Microsystems, Israel said he knows how to lead the LP to major party status.

Greatest start-up

"My experience in management, especially at startup firms, gives me the kind of background we need to make this transition," he said. "And what we have now is the greatest start-up in history."

Israel joined the party in 1996 and was the 1998 Massachusetts LP lieutenant-gubernatorial nominee. He served as Executive Director of the Massachusetts LP for two years before being elected as State Chair in 1999.

In addition, he serves as an At-Large Representative on the Libertarian National Committee and is a member of the party's Strategic Planning Team. Professionally, he manages ProManage, a software consulting firm.

"The future of the party and of our country lies within us, within each individual activist, donor, and candidate," he said. "All of our goals can be achieved if we put our full will behind them and refuse to be distracted."

The LNC Chair heads the LP's National Committee for a two-year term. The new chair will be selected by a vote of the delegates at the LP National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, July 4-7, 2002.

For more information about the Eli Israel for Chair campaign, e-mail: info@eliasisrael.org. Or write: Eli Israel for Chair, 105 Lexington Street, Burlington, MA 01803. Visit: www.eliasisrael.org.

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

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

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

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

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

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

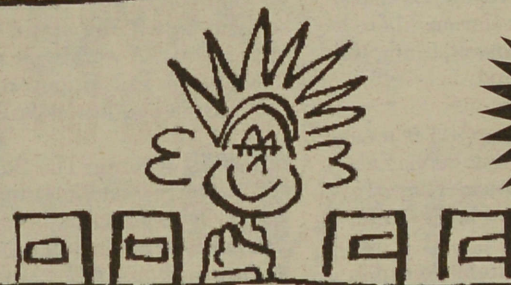
"I ended up staying four hours simply because it was so much fun!" — **Reg Dominy**, Georgia

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

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

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

— **Ed McGuire**, Vermont.

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

— **Richard C. Price**, Idaho.

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

— The late **Jim Lewis**, 1984 Libertarian Party vice presidential candidate

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

— **Beth Morgan**, Georgia.

"The OPH booth was a big hit. Numerous people stated it was the most interesting exhibit."

— **Carl Wimmer**, Kentucky.

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

— **Kirk Applegate**, Ohio

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

— **Brian Towey**, North Carolina

"I never tired of turning to people whose dot I'd just placed in the libertarian quadrant and asking innocently, 'Did you know you were a libertarian?' and seeing the look of discovery."

— **Victor Germann**, Libertarian Party of Monroe County Indiana

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

— **Blay Tarnoff**, New York Libertarian Party

OPH is the centerpiece of "Discover Liberty," the biggest one-on-one libertarian outreach effort ever! See our ad elsewhere in this issue for more about Discover Liberty. Then get your OPH kit — and join in the excitement!

The 25 best songs about Liberty

Continued from Page 1

Do those last two criteria hint at a "quota" system? We plead guilty.

Our goal was to include a wide variety of musical styles, so you'll find everyone from crooner Frank Sinatra to punk rockers NOFX; from rasta master Bob Marley to country luminary Hank Williams, Jr.; from classic rockers Rush to alternative folk/punks the Pogues; and from rappers Public Enemy to the original Fab Four, the Beatles. No matter what your musical taste, there should be something for you on the list.

We also understand that most people's favorite songs come from one particular era. "Every generation throws a hero up the pop charts," Paul Simon sang on *Graceland*. Whether you came of age in the '60s, '70s, '80s, or '90s, we wanted to make sure that at least one of your era's heroes was included.

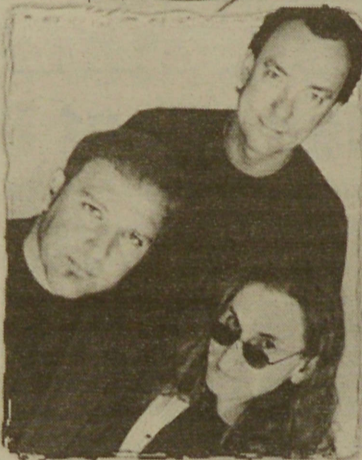
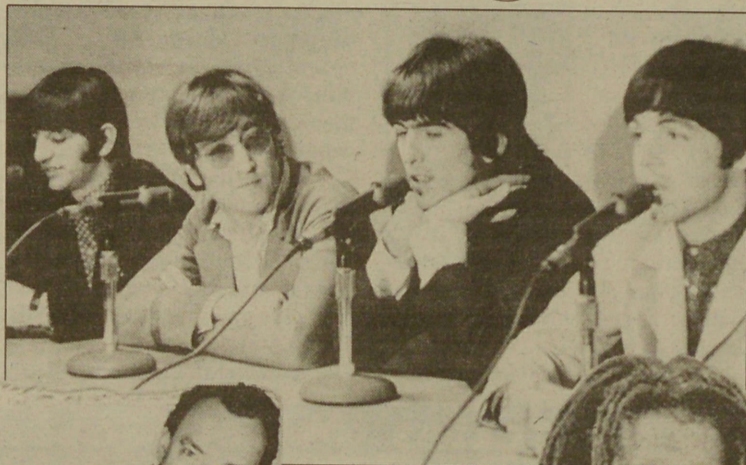
This is by no means a definitive list — nor is it in any particular order. But it is a list of 25 great songs that celebrate liberty. Sing them loud. Sing them proud.

1 ■ **Song:** Sunshine
■ **Artist:** Jonathan Edwards
■ **Album:** *Lucky Day* (Capricorn, 1971)

Released in 1971, the same year the Libertarian Party was founded, "Sunshine" was a cross-over hit that reached the Top Five. A catchy, upbeat yet laid-back country anthem, its folksy lyrics were almost custom-written for the second American Revolution. The song begins on a defeated note, with the hero telling the sunshine to go away because "some man's . . . trying to run my life / He tells me I better get in line." But the hero realizes that "time is all we've lost," and defiantly claims: "He can't even run his own life / I'll be damned if he'll run mine." The song ends hopefully with the lyrics, "Sunshine come on back another day / I promise you I'll be singin' / This old world she's gonna turn around / Brand new bells will be ringing." This could be an optimistic theme song for all Libertarians. [Submitted by Mark J. Zetzer Jr.]

2 ■ **Song:** My Life
■ **Artist:** Billy Joel
■ **Album:** *52nd Street* (Sony/Columbia, 1978)

The central problem of libertarianism is how to draw the lines that neighbors and government may not cross in dealing with individuals. Billy Joel's "My Life" is the pop song that I think



■ **The Beatles** (top) make the case against the "Taxman"; Rush (left) is the only band to make the Top 25 list twice; and Peter Tosh explains what miracle drug cures the flu, asthma, and tuberculosis.

best spotlights that question. Joel sings: "I don't care what you say anymore / this is my life / Go ahead with your own life, and leave me alone . . . And you can speak your own mind / but not on my time." The lyrics simply declare personal sovereignty, expressing equally well the thoughts of a teenager, standing up to his parents; an adult, setting personal boundaries for a domineering lover, spouse, or friend; or — I like to think — an overtaxed, overregulated citizen, rethinking his relationship to society and government. [Submitted by James Merritt]

3 ■ **Song:** 911 is a Joke
■ **Artist:** Public Enemy
■ **Album:** *Fear of a Black Planet* (Uni/Def Jam, 1990)

This is a witty little rap tune about a government service that costs lives by being slow — and selective about which neighborhoods get efficient government ambulance service. The lyrics say: "Hit me / Going going gone / Now I dialed 911 a long time ago / Don't you see how late they're reactin' / They only come when they wanna / so get the morgue, embalm the goner / They don't care, 'cause they stay paid anyway / If your life is on the line, you're dead today . . . 'Cause 911 is a fake life-saver." This was one of the first rap songs to take on the bad effects government has on inner cities — besides police brutality. [Submitted by Marc Brandl]

4 ■ **Song:** Get Up, Stand Up
■ **Artist:** Bob Marley & The Wailers
■ **Album:** *Burnin'* (Tuff Gong/Island, 1973)

"Get up, stand up / Stand up

for your rights / Get up, stand up / Don't give up the fight." It is the message of the Founding Fathers set to a reggae beat. And Robert Nesta Marley (R.I.P.) had the spirit of a Founding Father with Rastafarian dreads. Rastafarians believe in religious and personal freedom, including the freedom to smoke ganja (which is their sacrament). Later, Marley sings: "Most people think / Great God will come from the sky / Take away everything / And make everybody feel high / But if you know what life is worth / You will look for yours on Earth / And now you see the light / You stand up for your rights." A worldwide classic of freedom and empowerment. [Submitted by Andrew Williams]

5 ■ **Song:** The Band Played Waltzing Matilda
■ **Artist:** The Pogues
■ **Album:** *Rum, Sodomy & the Lash* (WEA, 1985)

Written by Australian folk singer Eric Bogle, the song describes Australian soldiers marching off to the Empire's Great War in Europe — which would be eclipsed, of course, by an even "greater" war just 25 years later — and coming home "armless, legless, blind and insane." War isn't just "another government program," as Joseph Sobran has written, but its bloodiest, most senseless and self-aggrandizing program. With their haunting melody and lead singer Shane MacGowan's lugubrious brogue, the Pogues express this libertarian sentiment in especially poignant fashion. This may be, quite simply, the finest anti-war song ever written. [Submitted by Tony Pivetta]



6 ■ **Song:** Liberty
■ **Artist:** The Grateful Dead
■ **Album:** *So Many Roads* (BMG/Arista, 1999)

"Liberty" is an ode to uncompromising freedom. Its opening stanza recalls Patrick Henry's "Give me liberty or give me death!" — "Saw a bird with a tear in his eye / Walking to New Orleans, my oh my / Said, 'Hey bird, wouldn't you rather die / Than walk this world when you're born to fly?'" The song pays homage to unflinching individualism: "If I was the sun, I'd look for shade / If I was a bed, I would stay unmade / If I was a river I'd run uphill . . ." And the chorus exults for all to hear: "Ohh freedom, Ohh liberty / Ohh leave me alone / To find my own way home . . ." It also doesn't hurt that the Grateful Dead was perhaps the 20th century's most "libertarian" musical entity, eschewing industry rules and conventions to blaze a most original trail for some 30 years. [Submitted by Gary Snyder]

7 ■ **Song:** Something for Nothing
■ **Artist:** Rush
■ **Album:** *2112* (Uni/Mercury, 1976)

The song that best exemplifies liberty is "Something for Nothing," written by Neil Peart (who is a self-proclaimed Libertarian). The lyrics begin by pointing out how most of us are waiting for someone or something to come along and change our lives. Then, in the reprise, the song says: "You don't get something for nothing / You don't get freedom for free." To me, these lyrics say freedom can only be attained and preserved by a continuing effort and sacrifice. The last stanza is about freedom and how it allows an individual to create a life for himself that best reflects his goals and values. [Submitted by Tom M. Brakebill]

8 ■ **Song:** 1%
■ **Artist:** Jane's Addiction
■ **Album:** *Jane's Addiction* (Triple XXX, 1987)

Rather than providing a 100 word interpretation, I am submitting the actual lyrics, because the Liberty message needs no interpreting. It's almost as though the song was written to describe the uphill struggle the LP and all liberty lovers have faced over the past 30 years from both gangs and governments alike. The song says: "All the people I know wanna be left alone / some people! / I don't know! / they won't leave you alone / you gotta be just like them / biggest gang I know they call the government . . . the gang and the government / no different / the gang and the government / no different." [Submitted by Hunter Schaeffer]

9 ■ **Song:** Taxman
■ **Artist:** The Beatles
■ **Album:** *Revolver* (Capitol, 1966)

This song highlights in a funny way the lengths that government will go to tax people. It also conveys quite well the attitude many politicians have — namely, that our money is theirs and we should be happy that they let us keep any of it. The lyrics, written by George Harrison, make a wonderfully libertarian point about taxes: "If you drive a car, I'll tax the street / If you try to sit, I'll tax your seat / If you get too cold, I'll tax your heat / If you take a walk, I'll tax your feet." And don't miss the last line: "I'm the taxman, yeah, I'm the taxman / and you're working for no one but me." [Submitted by Pierre Parent]



10 ■ **Song:** Copperhead Road
■ **Artist:** Steve Earle
■ **Album:** *Copperhead Road* (Uni, 1988)

When arguing against the War On Drugs, Libertarians frequently draw parallels to alcohol prohibition. But they rarely do it as persuasively as Steve Earle. Set to an urgent mandolin, this country/rock classic is the story of John Lee Pettimore, whose granddaddy brewed moonshine on Copperhead Road. "Now the revenue man wanted granddaddy bad / He headed up the holler with everything he had," sings Earle. "It's before my time but I've been told / He never came back from Copperhead Road." Fast-forward 50 years: After two tours of duty in Vietnam, Pettimore comes back "with a brand new plan / I take the seed from Columbia and Mexico / I plant it up the holler down Copperhead Road." Recycling history, before long "the DEA's got a chopper in the air . . ." And restating Prohibition's deadly lessons, Pettimore warns the DEA: "I learned a thing or two from Charlie don't you know / you better stay away from Copperhead Road." Three verses, 50 years of history, and one lesson: Prohibition kills. [Submitted by Bill Winter]



11 ■ **Song:** America
■ **Artist:** Neil Diamond
■ **Album:** *The Jazz Singer* (Sony/Columbia, 1984)

The perfect pro-immigration libertarian theme song. This song's lyrics embody what I believe is the best ideal of America: A star guiding the journey of

See **BEST SONGS** Page 17

The 25 best songs about Liberty

Continued from Page 16

people fleeing from hunger and oppression. People come to America because they "only want to be free." America will be their new "... home, it's a new and shining place / Make our bed and we'll say our grace / Freedom's light burning warm ... Everywhere around the world / They're coming to America / Every time that flag's unfurled / They're coming to America." This song's stirring music gets anyone's heart pounding, a fitting accompaniment to the stirring lyrics. [Submitted by Paul Rolig]

12 ■ **Song:** The Plan
■ **Artist:** NOFX
■ **Album:** *Life in The Fat Lane / Fat Music Vol IV* (Fat Wreck Chords, 1999)

Two years ago, I bought a punk rock compilation titled *Life in The Fat Lane / Fat Music Vol IV*. I loved the entire album, but when it got to "The Plan" I stood in amazement. It was talking about the things I stood for, in a crude punk way, of course. I listened over and over; I had no idea what a Libertarian was. Later that week I heard Harry Browne on the Don & Mike radio show. He showed me



that there is a political party that reflects my ideas; I no longer had to vote *against* anyone. I never felt so free, and I owe it all to NOFX. The song says: "Call it Libertarian 'cos we do as we please ... It has to do with freedom and personal liberty / I don't f**k with you, don't f**k with me ..." [Submitted by Bob Loop]

13 ■ **Song:** People Want to Be Free
■ **Artist:** The Young Rascals
■ **Album:** *Freedom Suite* (Atlantic, 1969)

A simple expression of libertarian thought. There are no complex topics, no over-the-top explanations of free-market economy. No mention of an overbearing government, only a single, beautiful assertion, "All the world over, so easy to see / People everywhere just wanna be free / I can't understand it, so simple to me / People everywhere just got to be free." This is the core of my beliefs. Any other argument I can formulate stems from that simple idea: "People want to be free." This song reminds me why I'm a Libertarian. [Submitted by Dave Greer]

14 ■ **Song:** I Want To Be Free
■ **Artist:** Too Short
■ **Album:** *Shorty the Pimp* (BMG/Jive/Silvertone, 1992)

While Too Short's lyrics are often explicit, and he is more hardcore than mainstream, he is not about the "gangsta rap" that glorifies violence. Back in 1992, the year this song came out, LP Presidential candidate Andre Marrou joked that the Republicans don't want anyone having more fun than they do, and the Democrats don't want anyone making more money than they do — but Libertarians want you to make money *and* have fun. Too Short is clearly with the Libertarians. In "I Want To Be Free," he recognizes that the police are standing between the black man and his peaceful enjoyment of money ("They see a brother makin' major cash / They knock a patch out his black ass") and fun ("Cause the 5-0's always tryin' to jack a playa.") The song is full of references to illegal searches, racial profiling, and other War on Drugs abuses. And you gotta love the title. [Submitted by Starchild]

15 ■ **Song:** Capitalism
■ **Artist:** Oingo Boingo
■ **Album:** *Only A Lad* (Uni/A&M, 1981)

I think the lyrics speak for themselves as to why this song best exemplifies the spirit of lib-



erty: "There's nothing wrong with Capitalism / There's nothing wrong with free enterprise / Don't try to make me feel guilty / I'm so tired of hearing you cry / There's nothing wrong with making some profit / If you ask me, I'll say it's just fine ... There's nothing wrong with wanting to live nice / I'm so tired of hearing you whine / About the revolution / Bringin' down the rich / When was the last time you dug a ditch, baby?" We are the only party who unabashedly supports capitalism and this song speaks to that — while admonishing the naysayers to admit that they have no real appreciation for the people they supposedly speak for. [Submitted by David Sarosi]

16 ■ **Song:** My Way
■ **Artist:** Frank Sinatra
■ **Album:** *My Way* (WEA/Warner, 1969)

This song reflects our Libertarian spirit. To me, it is about freedom of choice in all aspects of our lives. Sinatra mentions regrets, yet he dealt with the consequences of the decisions ... he never sought to be bailed out by anyone else due to poor choices. Upon reflection, there were good times and bad times, but he is



happy and proud to have done it his way. The lyrics (by Paul Anka) are a tribute to the spirit of unbowed individualism: "For what is a man, what has he got? / If not himself, then he has naught / To say the things he truly feels / And not the words of one who kneels / The record shows, I took the blows / And did it *my way*." I can not think of a better song to express my Libertarian beliefs. [Submitted by Kelley Galambos]

17 ■ **Song:** Inside Four Walls
■ **Artist:** Nevermore
■ **Album:** *Dead Heart in a Dead World* (Century Media, 2000)

This heavy metal song is a blunt criticism of the War on Drugs. The band members had a friend who has been put in jail for drug use, and they strongly believe he doesn't deserve to be there. The middle of the song has a short monologue that says: "It's a cold fact that in the United States of America, typical drug offenders do more time than child molesters, rapists, and murderers. Is this justice? Is this the American way?" The lead singer then screams, "NO!" The song is most impressive because you can tell he really feels what he's saying. [Submitted by Jerome Barthelemy]

See **BEST SONGS** Page 18

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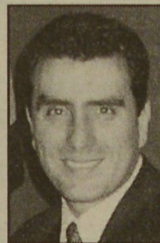
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All this indicates great potential for the February 2002 elections. But our openly libertarian educational and electoral campaign must be media-intensive, which is costly everywhere, and as

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The 25 best songs about Liberty

Continued from Page 17

18 ■ **Song:** The Coalition to Ban Coalitions
■ **Artist:** Hank Williams, Jr.
■ **Album:** *The Pressure is On* (WEA/Atlantic, 1987)

The all-time best liberty song, containing the clearest libertarian sentiment, comes from country legend Hank Williams, Jr. If you hear it, you'll want to nominate it for Official Theme Song of the Libertarian Party. I'll let the lyrics speak for themselves: "This is the coalition to ban coalitions / I'm not a politician, but I've got views / some folks want to ban cars, some want to get rid of Fender guitars / hey, you do your thing and we'll do our thing, too . . . now they want to take my cigarettes and all my good whiskey / and these damn coalitions they are after you and me / they want to get rid of my .44s and all the R-rated films / if they only knew how much we'd all love to get rid of them." Somebody ought to approach Hank about joining the party. [Submitted by James Bennett]



■ **The Pogues** (top) lament the "Great War"; Frank Sinatra (left) did it his way; and Ice-T raps censorship and the PMRC.



19 ■ **Song:** Freedom of Speech
■ **Artist:** Ice-T
■ **Album:** *The Iceberg/Freedom of Speech* (WEA/Warner Bros., 1992)

Rap artist Ice-T has a history of getting into trouble with the censors, most famously when his previous band N.W.A. released "F**k the Police" and then when Bodycount put out "Cop Killer." So it's no surprise that he's something of a First Amendment fanatic, which he makes clear in "Freedom of Speech," his raw free speech manifesto. Let's allow Ice-T to speak for himself: "Freedom of Speech, let 'em take it from me / Next they'll take it from you, then what you gonna do? / Let 'em censor books, let 'em censor art / PMRC, this is where the witch hunt starts . . . If you don't like what I'm sayin' / Fine / But don't close it, always keep an open mind / We only got one right left in the world today / Let me have it or throw the Constitution away." [Submitted by Ananda Creager]

regain freedoms we've lost over the years. I'm a new Libertarian and I'm proud to stand next to all of you in defense of our constitutional freedoms. Greenwood sings: "If tomorrow all the things were gone / I'd worked for all my life / And I had to start again / with just my children and my wife / I'd thank my lucky stars / to be living here today / 'Cause the flag still stands for freedom / and they can't take that away / I'm proud to be an American / where at least I know I'm free . . ." [Submitted by Gregory Waggett]



21 ■ **Song:** Monster/Suicide/America
■ **Artist:** Steppenwolf
■ **Album:** *Monster* (Uni/MCA, 1969)

One of the finest examples of libertarian music ever. From "Once the religious, the hunted and weary / Chasing the promise of freedom and hope / Came to this country to build a new vision . . ." to "America, where are you now? / Don't you care about your sons and daughters?" this song cites good and bad events in the history of our nation. The lyrics (by John Kay) say: "The spirit was freedom and justice / Its keepers seemed generous and kind / Its leaders were supposed to serve the country / Now they don't pay it no mind / Cause the people got

20 ■ **Song:** God Bless The USA
■ **Artist:** Lee Greenwood
■ **Album:** *American Patriot* (EMD/Capitol, 1992)

I know this was George Bush's unofficial anthem during his second run for office, but it's a moving song — perhaps more so to me, as I'm a retired military man. I view the Libertarian Party as soldiers of a kind, fighting to

fat and grew lazy / Now their vote is a meaningless joke . . . Yes, a monster's on the loose / It's put our heads into the noose . . ." A classic rock anthem about the decline and fall of the American dream of liberty. [Submitted by Bob Geller]

22 ■ **Song:** Legalize It
■ **Artist:** Peter Tosh
■ **Album:** *Legalize It* (CBS Records, 1976)

There may be more eloquently argued pro-marijuana legalization songs, and there may be more persuasive ones — but there are none more catchy or memorable. Over a slinky reggae beat, Tosh sings about his beloved ganja: "Legalize it, yeah yeah / That's the best thing you can do." His rationale? Well, "Doctors smoke it / Nurses smoke it / Judges smoke it / Even the lawyers too." If that doesn't convince you, perhaps his medical arguments will: "It's good for the flu / it's good for asthma / It's good for tuberculosis . . ." OK, so Tosh (who used to appear on stage with a cigar-sized spliff in hand), won't win any debating points. But the song has become a pro-legalization classic because it's impossible not to sing along with. [Submitted by Paul Scott Williams]

23 ■ **Song:** Rather Die Than Be Your Slave
■ **Artist:** Poker Face
■ **Album:** *Sex, Lies and Politics* (PokerDudes, 2000)

This Allentown (PA) band is not to be believed! With a sound that is a cross between Creed, Alice in Chains, and Pink Floyd, they grab you immediately with

their music. The band's intense sound hammers the freedom message home in song after song. My favorite song is "Rather Die Than Be Your Slave." The lyrics: "The sun rose high and burnt the night away / Who stood before me was my enemy / Don't tread on me / He's come to take away my liberties / I'd rather die than be a slave to thee / Don't tread on me!" The band never lets you forget their message. [Submitted by Deb Sackett]



24 ■ **Song:** Government Cheese
■ **Artist:** The Rainmakers
■ **Album:** *The Rainmakers* (Polygram, 1985)

Forget about free speech, drug legalization, or immigration. The Rainmakers are willing to tackle the really tough issues — free government cheese! Actually, this is a (semi)-serious song about the spirit-sapping effects of welfare. The lyrics say: "Give a man a free house and he'll bust out the windows / Put his family on food stamps, now he's a big spender / No food on the table and the bills ain't paid / 'Cause he spent it on cigarettes and P.G.A. [Pure Grain Alcohol] / They'll turn us all into beggars 'cause they're easier to please / They're feeding our people that Government Cheese . . . Going to hell in a handbag, can't you see / I ain't gonna eat no Government Cheese." It rocks, it's loud, and it's damned right! [Submitted by Larry Lawver]

25 ■ **Song:** The Trees
■ **Artist:** Rush
■ **Album:** *Hemispheres* (Uni/Mercury, 1978)

There are any number of songs by Rush that express libertarian ideas; I am tempted to choose 2112 instead, especially since it is an interpretation of a book [*Anthem*] by my favorite libertarian author, Ayn Rand. But 2112 really doesn't qualify as a single song. The Neil Peart-penned "The Trees" certainly does, and eloquently contrasts the ecstasy of individualism with the

destructive tyranny of collectivism. The song is a parable about coercive equality: "There is unrest in the forest / There is trouble with the trees / For the maples want more sunlight / And the oaks ignore their pleas . . ." When some

of the trees form a union to demand "equal rights," the outcome is predictable (to Libertarians, anyway): "And the trees are all kept equal / By hatchet, axe, and saw." [Submitted by Chip Wilson]

Just in case your favorite song or artist didn't make the list, here's 25 runners-up: "Lady Liberty" (Orleans); "Long Haired Country Boy" (Charlie Daniels Band); "Won't Get Fooled Again" (The Who); "Free" (Stryper); "God & the F.B.I." (Janis Ian); "(Come and) Sing A Simple Song of Freedom" (Bobby Darin); "Power Play" (Steppenwolf); "People Have The Power" (Patti Smith); "Smuggler's Blues" (Glen Frey); "Freedom" (Jimi Hendrix); "I Won't Back Down" (Tom Petty); "Promiseland" (Willie Nelson); "We're Not Gonna Take It" (Twisted Sister); "Stand Up" (The Steve Morse Band); "Closer to Free" (BoDeans); "Vital Signs" (Rush); "It's My Own Business" (Chuck Berry); "Everyday People" (The Rembrandts); "Grievance" (Pearl Jam); "What's He Building" (Tom Waits); "Don't Ever Take Away My Freedom" (Peter Yarrow); "I'll Try Something New" (Smokey Robinson & The Miracles); "Don't Dream It's Over" (Crowded House); "It's My Life" (The Animals); and "Cry Freedom" (Dave Matthews Band).

■ **Editor's note:** When more than one reader suggested the same song, either the first — or the most persuasive submission — was selected and credited. Submissions have been edited or expanded as necessary.

Ohio LP takes ballot label fight to Supreme Court

The Ohio LP is taking its fight to get the "Libertarian" label listed on the state ballot all the way to the Supreme Court.

In an appeal filed on July 9, the state party is challenging an appellate court decision that allows the state government to list minor party candidates on the state election ballot as "Independent," rather than the actual name of their party.

"The Libertarian Party believes the state of Ohio should not deny candidates the right to have party labels placed by their name on the ballot, and should not keep party affiliation information from voters," said Ohio LP Executive Director Dena Bruedigam.

Sued Ohio

The legal battle dates back to August 1998, when James Schrader, an LP candidate for U.S. House, sued the Ohio government for the right to have "Libertarian" listed by his name.

In September 1998, a U.S. district court ruled in the LP's favor — and the state requested a stay to block the decision from affecting the November ballot. However, the request was rejected and Schrader appeared on the ballot as a Libertarian.

The state government appealed, and the case went to a federal judge in December 1999. The

judge upheld the original ruling, saying that "voters have a right to information about what the candidate stands for."

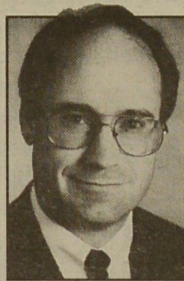
In January 2001, the state appealed again to the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, which ruled in the state's favor.

Bruedigam said the court was motivated by political bias.

"The decision was a terrible one," she said. "We believe that the court was upset over the fact that Nader is widely perceived to

have cost Al Gore the election. The court was trying to diminish the influence of third parties."

Now, the Ohio LP is appealing to the nation's highest court — although they will have to overcome long odds,



■ Schrader: Files appeal.

since the Court declines dozens of cases for every one it hears.

However, if the Supreme Court does take the case, a recent high court decision will work in the Libertarians' favor, said *Ballot Access News* editor Richard Winger.

In *Cooke v. Gralike*, a case relating to term limits — rendered just three days after the appellate court decision — the Supreme Court ruled the only title that could be listed next to a

candidate's name was party affiliation.

"It was disgusting timing," Winger said. "The [appellate judges] rushed the decision out in three weeks, when usually a decision takes at least a couple of months. They wanted to avoid being affected by *Cooke v. Gralike*."

Although the Supreme Court isn't likely to consider the case before October, Winger said he is optimistic about the outcome.

"Our hope is that the Supreme Court will actually force the Appellate Division to rehear the case, in light of its decision in *Cooke v. Gralike*," he said.

Scottsdale group supports liberty

Continued from Page 14
council seats are up for election, and the SLA has already begun conducting interviews with potential Libertarian candidates.

"Getting candidates elected to city council is the most important thing to do, because that's really where most of our local freedoms are taken away," he said. "It's going to be an uphill battle, but we're optimistic."

The SLA has already received news coverage in the *Arizona Republic*, and the *Scottsdale Tribune* called the group "a welcome voice for liberty."

Respect rights

"Scottsdale is a wonderful city in which to live, work, and do business," said Lynch, who owns a computer business called Lynch Software Consulting, Inc. "But for many individuals it is becoming increasingly less so because the city government does not seriously respect property rights any longer."

"SLA will work to keep Scottsdale's wonderful city for everyone — through support of freedom and property rights."

For more information about the Scottsdale Libertarian Alliance, call: (480) 330-6942. Fax: (480) 860-4388. Or visit: www.slaforfreedom.org.

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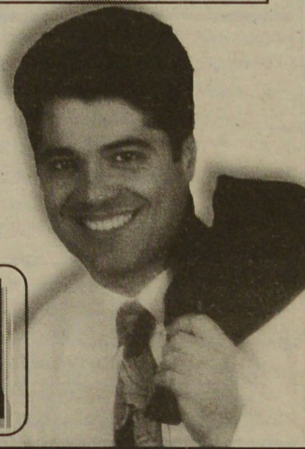
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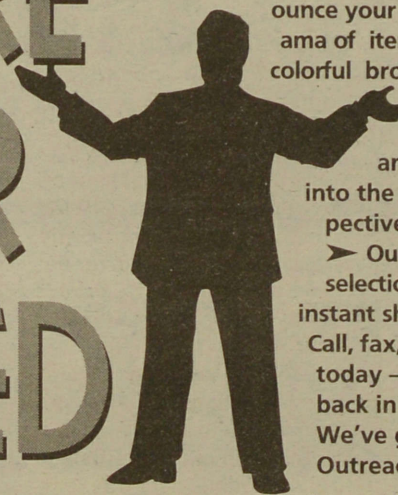
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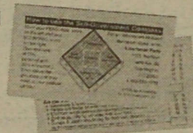
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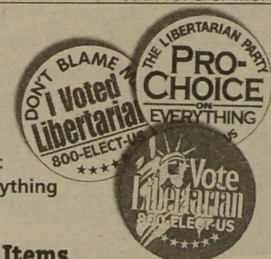
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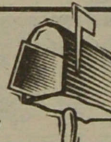
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Politics2001

The birth of Liberty and other news

■ In Indiana, **Paul Hager** filed paperwork to run for Secretary of State in 2002. In Massachusetts, **Craig J. Mathias** announced he is running for State Rep. (District 7/Middlesex) in a special election on October 23, while **Jim Fredrickson** has taken out nomination papers for U.S. House (District 9) in a special election on October 6. Also in Massachusetts, **Kevin Costa** is running for Councilor At Large in New Bedford. In Colorado, Denver businessman **Rick Stanley** said he will run for U.S. Senate in 2002. In Florida, **Bruce Wechsler** was nominated to run for U.S. House (District 15). In Virginia, **James Simpson** is running for House of Delegates (District 51).

■ In Washington state, **Jesse Brocksmith** was elected Chair of the East King County LP. In Missouri, the St. Louis LP unanimously elected **Kevin Babcock** as new Chair. In Colorado, **John Berntson** has been elected State Chair. In Massachusetts, **Kamal Jain** has been appointed as the new Executive Director. In Indiana, **Eric Merrell** was elected Chair of the Putnam County LP. In Washington, DC, **David Alan** was elected new State Chair on June 16.

■ Media tidbits: Morality in Media — the New York-based group that lobbies for, well, *censorship* in media — doesn't like libertarians. The group issued a statement on June 25 announcing: "America does not need judges who use their judicial powers to enact ACLU or Libertarian agendas." **Bob Glass** — a possible candidate for the LP's gubernatorial nomination in Colorado and president of the Tyranny Response Team — appeared on ABC's *Politically Incorrect* on June 11. In response to a question about whether people were "trustworthy" enough to have guns, Glass said: "Is the government trustworthy?"

■ In New Jersey, the **Mark Edgerton** for Governor campaign turned in enough signatures on June 26 to qualify for the November 2001 ballot. "Many Democrat and Republican voters are going to be dissatisfied with the choices of their parties, and many Independents will also be looking for better alternatives," said campaign manager **Kenneth Kaplan**. "Mark Edgerton is that better alternative!" In Virginia, **Bill Redpath** (Governor) and **Gary Reams** (Lt. Governor) officially qualified on June 29 to be on the ballot for the November election. "This is a truly historic occasion," said **Shelley Tamres**, Virginia LP Ballot Access Coordinator. "We not only got our first non-presidential statewide candidate on the ballot in Virginia, we got two on at once!"



■ **Edgerton:** Will qualify.

■ In Maine, **Robert Coolidge** was appointed to the Planning Board and the Ordinance Review Committee in Mount Desert. In Virginia, **Mike Lee** was appointed to the Citizens Committee on Real Property Assessment (Sterling District). In Delaware, **Robert Kitz** was appointed to the Frederica Town Council. In New Jersey, college student **Henry Cheney** won 10.17% of the vote in his race for Haddonfield Borough Commission on May 8.

■ State and local LP news: In Indiana, **Jeff Gold** of the Bike Wave offered a free bicycle tune-up to the first five people who donated \$100 or more to the Marion County LP. In Washington state, the LP hosted a booth at the Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered (GLBT) Pride Parade on June 24 in Seattle. In Michigan, LP member **Lonnie R. Williams** and his wife, **Valerie J. Milbrandt-Williams**, had a baby on July 11 — and named her **Liberty Rose Williams**. "I just love it when people ask me why we named her 'Liberty'!", said Williams.

■ In Massachusetts, **Ilana Freedman** has announced she will run for U.S. House (District 5) in 2002. Also in Massachusetts, **Richard Aucoin** is running for Waltham City Councilor (Ward 8). In Oklahoma, **Neil Mavis** plans to run for U.S. House (District 1) in a special election later this year, while **Chris Powell** will run for Bethany City Council. In New Mexico, **William English** has been nominated to run for U.S. House (District 2).

■ The Libertarian Party popped up in an unexpected place in June: In the *Sporting News*. Columnist Dave Kindred quoted LP National Director **Steve Dasbach** about the controversy over handicapped golfer Casey Martin. LP Press Secretary **George Getz** fielded eight media calls about the party's "Jenna Bush" press release. The party used the incident to make a point about federalism: The fact that the federal government had forced states to raise their legal drinking age to 21.

CAMPAIGN 2001 REPORT

Timothy LeBrun: County executive race seeks to avert 'fiscal crisis'

Nassau County, NY, imposes "tax on the future" with bonds

Promising to reduce the massive public debt that has been run up by local politicians, Libertarian Timothy LeBrun has launched a campaign to become the next county executive of Nassau County, New York.

Nassau County, which has the fourth-highest income per capita of any county in America, has run up almost \$3 billion in outstanding public debt due to irresponsible fiscal policies, charged LeBrun.

"Nassau County government has gotten so large that it is living beyond its means, resulting in a major fiscal crisis," said the 23-year-old CPA. "As Nassau County executive, I would do everything in my power to make county government smaller, thereby reducing the tax burden on all Nassau residents now and in the future."

Fiscal woes

LeBrun, who works for the firm of Ernst and Young, said the county's fiscal woes largely stem from bonds that legislators have issued to cover the salaries of county employees and to compensate for property tax challenges.

"[Nassau County] is traditionally a Republican county, and voters don't respond well when politicians keep hiking taxes," he said. "But bonds have to be redeemed at some point — they are just a tax on the future."

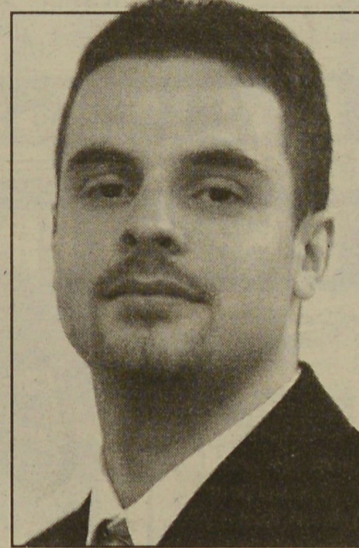
In order to regain sound fiscal footing, LeBrun offers several specific policy proposals:

■ **Allow competitive bidding for service contracts.** The county's economic woes are due in part to the lucrative union contracts that politicians have handed out, said LeBrun.

"Not only should service contracts go to the most efficient providers, but the cost of such contracts should be based on what the work would cost in the private sector," he said. "No padding for special interests."

■ **Allow local school districts to assess and collect property taxes directly.** At present, LeBrun said the county government acts as a "costly middleman" in the process.

"Nassau County does not run the local public schools, does not set the budgets, and has no control over the school districts," LeBrun said. "If they weren't involved in the collection of school property taxes, they wouldn't be open to lawsuits that stem from over assessment. I would support



■ **Timothy LeBrun:** "I want Nassau residents to know that they do have a choice."

eliminating Nassau from [this role] and allow the school districts to collect their own taxes."

Eliminate the Nassau Interim Finance Authority.

NIFA is an entity created by the state of New York specifically to manage the finances of Nassau County, LeBrun said. Among other things, the organization has refinanced a portion of Nassau's debt so the county could avoid a junk bond rating, and has recently granted \$25 million in state aid to help the county.

Nevertheless, LeBrun said that NIFA comes at a great cost to taxpayers, taking control of the budget away from locally accountable officials and forcing every New York taxpayer to pay for the financial problems of one county.

"If Nassau's elected officials are unwilling to raise the already high property and sales taxes to keep their big government operations, it should send them a message to cut spending and shrink the size of government, and not leach off other taxpayers," he said.

Privatize

To further cut down on county expenses, LeBrun said he would privatize Nassau Coliseum — a sports arena he said loses money every year — as well as the Long Island Bus Service. In addition he would legalize commuter jitney vans, fight waste and fraud, and fully disclose the county's financial records on the Internet.

"The whole key is to open these services to use the power of competition to raise the quality of services and cut costs," he said. "These cuts in spending will allow

Nassau to operate under budget without raising taxes, thus resulting in a surplus which would go towards reducing the debt."

LeBrun needs 1,500 signatures by August 21 to get on the November ballot. At that point, he said he will run an aggressive literature campaign, handing out fliers and setting up signs, hoping his message will be enough to overcome voter concerns about his age and inexperience.

Challenging

"It will be challenging," said LeBrun. "But it's the young people who bear the burden of excess government borrowing [and] have to be concerned about sky-high debt as a mortgage on their future."

LeBrun said his likely opponents will be Republican Bruce Bent, a billionaire businessman, and Democrat Tom DiNapoli, a five-term state assemblyman.

Although a longshot to win the race, LeBrun said the Libertarian message must be broadcast to voters if the county is to avoid a state government takeover.

"I want Nassau residents to know that they do have a choice in the election," he said. "Small government is the only answer to our current financial crisis, and I'm the only candidate offering it."

■ **For more information,** e-mail: tumblebrun@hotmail.com.

Corrections

■ **July 2001:** A news story about a Georgia LP ballot access lawsuit identified George Wallace as a Georgia gubernatorial candidate in 1968. In fact, he ran for president that year.

■ **July 2001:** A "News Briefs" item about an Indiana LP lawsuit against "S 527" said that the Michigan LP executive committee voted to join the lawsuit. In fact, "We had extensive discussion on whether to comply with the law, but have not voted on joining the lawsuit," reported Keith Edwards, Michigan LP Secretary.

■ **July 2001:** A news story about Russell Means' campaign for governor of New Mexico stated that Means had a felony conviction resulting from the Indian take-over of Wounded Knee in 1972. In fact, the felony conviction followed a courtroom protest in 1975, after Means and other Indians refused to stand when a judge entered.

Columnist Deroy Murdock: I'm a 'libertarian'

A popular syndicated columnist and television commentator has acknowledged that he is a libertarian.

Deroy Murdock, whose "This Opinion Just In" column is printed in newspapers across the USA, said he is a "libertarian" — not a conservative, as he is frequently labeled — in an e-mail message to a longtime Libertarian Party activist.

"I am a libertarian, not a conservative," Murdock wrote to San Diego LP activist Richard Rider

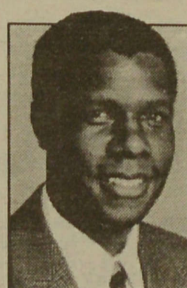
on July 7 in response to an e-mail message about a recent column.

Elaborating on his claim, Murdock wrote: "I would legalize drugs, prostitution and pornography for adults. The gov't should get out of the marriage licensing business. If two men can find a priest or rabbi to get them married, go for it. It should be none of the government's damn business who you marry. Those who object should pray for the souls of those they consider damned. I also would shut down the Fed and al-

low private banks to issue their own currency."

Murdock's acknowledgment that he is a libertarian was welcomed by LP National Director Steve Dasbach.

"Mr. Murdock has long been a favorite of anyone who appreciates elegant



■ **Murdock: No conservative.**

writing, common-sense solutions, and a bold, pro-liberty perspective," he said. "His columns will be even more enjoyable now that he has publicly declared himself a libertarian."

Murdock joins other well-known African-American columnists Walter Williams and Thomas Sowell.

Murdock has been a columnist for the *Washington Times* since 1985, and also writes regularly for the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Orange County Register*, the

MSNBC website, *National Review*, the *Dallas Morning News*, and others.

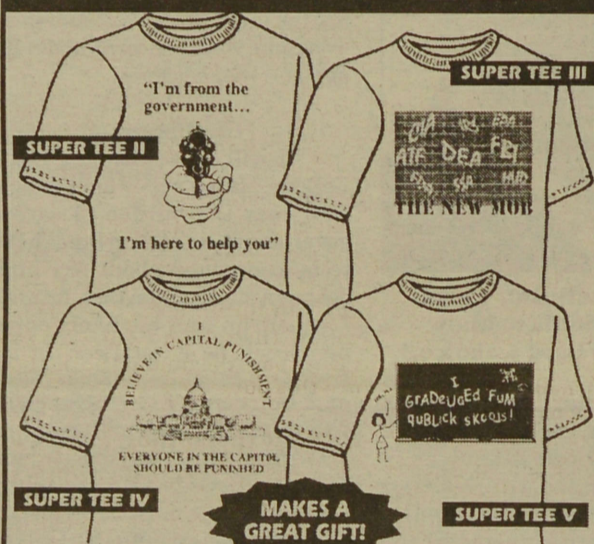
A popular television guest, he has appeared on ABC's *Nightline*, CNN, *Politically Incorrect*, and the Fox News Channel.

In addition, Murdock is a Senior Fellow at the Atlas Economic Research Foundation in Virginia, a co-founder of Third Millennium, and on the National Advisory Board of Project 21, which promotes "free-market solutions [for] America's black communities."

He is the president of Loud & Clear Communications, a marketing and media consulting company based in New York.

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The Experts

The whole truth about 'global warming'

The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) has just issued another report on global warming. A substantial part of it is based upon the U.S. National Assessment (USNA) of global warming, yet another government report that came out right before the last election. In turn, it was based, in large part, on computer models used in yet another government report on global warming, from the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Together, the best I can tell, these were produced by a total of a couple thousand people. Together, they were dead wrong about the most fundamental aspect of climate change, namely how we are changing our atmosphere.

Traps radiation

First, a little physics. It has been known since at least 1872 that carbon dioxide — a byproduct of combustion, or the meta-respiration of civilization, dependent upon your point of view — traps warming radiation.

It has also long been known that its warming effect becomes less at increasingly high concentrations.

As a result, a constant increase in atmospheric carbon dioxide results in less warming over time.

So, the only way to keep warming the atmosphere at a constant rate is to add carbon dioxide at an increasing, or exponential rate. This is what the U.N., the USNA, and the National Academy all assume... at least inasmuch as the Academy report states its parentage is the USNA, in its section titled Consequences of Increased Climate Change.

The fact is that carbon dioxide has not accumulated in the atmosphere at an exponential rate for the last quarter-century: This is obvious to anyone with an Internet connection (in order to download a graph of the carbon dioxide history), eyeballs and a ruler. You will see that the behavior of the last 25 years looks a lot more like a straight line than an upward-pointing curve.

Those with statistical expertise could also enter the data into a program like Excel and see if drawing an up-curve through the data results in a significant improvement over a straight line. The answer, for 25 years, is no.

By Patrick J. Michaels

This can only mean one thing. The linear change in carbon dioxide for the last quarter-century will result in an inevitable and inexorable slowing of global warming in coming decades.

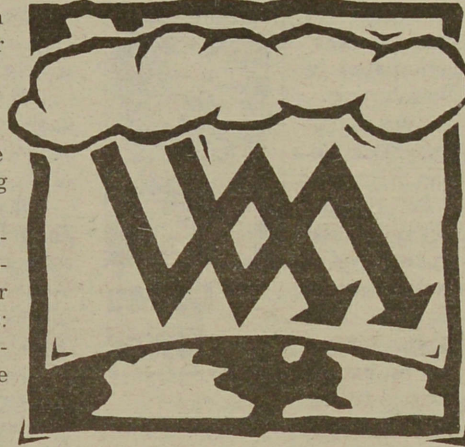
So why isn't carbon dioxide increasing exponentially, even as the number of people are? Two reasons: We are becoming increasingly efficient, and the planet is getting greener.

Blustering

We now produce a (deflated) dollar's worth of stuff using about half as much energy as we used to. Neither the U.N. nor the EU, despite their blustering, forced us to do this. Instead, stockholders made it happen, demanding more output for less cost. There's every reason to expect this to continue.

The earth got greener because more carbon dioxide made the plants grow better, and a warming, primarily of the winter, lengthened the growing season. Will this greening stop, as some fear, when forests become mature and fall over? Not if they're turned into houses, which last for hundreds of years. This is one very good argument for managed, as opposed to natural forestry.

How could the Academy, the National Assessment Team, and the United Nations fail to notice that they got the basic behavior of carbon dioxide (and therefore, future warming) wrong? Could thousands of scientists simply miss what anyone with a hard



drive and a ruler can see? Of course not. But where would my profession be if we couldn't scare you into funding us any more?

In a world where he who presents the scariest argument gets the most funding, *everything* is threatening.

It's not just in climate science, either. How about cancer? We spend just about as much money there as we do on global warming. The government regales us with impressively weak associations between diet, urban air, ozone depletion and death, when the lion's share of cancer deaths would go away if people would simply not smoke ciggie butts.

Tout the obscure

Which causes more cancer — increasing ultraviolet radiation by 2% from ozone depletion (itself maybe too large an estimate) or going to the beach and taking off 98% of your clothes? But simple behavior changes cashier armies of regulators, who, thank you, would much rather be employed. So we tout the obscure while ignoring the obvious.

Which, sadly, is why thousands of the best minds in America aren't eager to tell you that changes in atmospheric carbon dioxide have been so slow that global warming is likely to slow down in future decades. Exactly when, though, no one knows. Please pass the funding until I figure this out.

■ About the author: Patrick J. Michaels is senior fellow in environmental studies at the Washington, DC Cato Institute and author of *The Satanic Gases*.

Editor's Note

From time to time, *LP News* will run commentary on political issues from "The Experts" — policy writers from libertarian think tanks and foundations.

Why G.W. Bush's 'minuscule, ultra-gradual' tax cut is a joke

We've been had. By a Bush. Again.

The tax cut is a joke. After all the blather about how the surplus belongs to us, not the government, the resulting tax-cut bill is minuscule, ultra-gradual, and now scheduled to expire in 10 years!

Republican and Democratic members of Congress, most of whom never saw a dollar they didn't think was theirs, took advantage of President Bush's desperation to sign a tax-cut bill — any tax-cut bill — and handed us this fiasco.

The promise to cut the 15% bracket to 10% was abandoned. Instead, there is a new 10% bracket for married couples' first \$12,000. After that, the take is still 15% up to \$45,000.

The president pledged to cut the top 39.6% bracket to 33% — which would have failed to roll back his father's 1990 promise-breaking tax cut — but that pledge was radically modified. The top rate will be reduced to 35% by 2006 and to 33 or 34% four years later.

Meanwhile, the personal ex-

emption and itemized deduction will be phased out for people in the top bracket — which will increase their taxes.

There are many other provisions involving child credits, 401(k)'s, and the like. This is surely not a tax-simplification bill. And it isn't much of a tax-reduction bill either. Face it, \$1.3 trillion over a decade isn't much money. The government will rake in at least \$25 trillion in that time.

"Price tag"

The big spenders in Washington complain that the "price tag" is really \$1.9 trillion, or more if you count unpaid interest on the national debt. Big deal.

The whole matter is a big mass of fallacy. We should know by now that cutting tax rates does not cost the Treasury money; it makes money. High tax rates discourage productive activity, leaving less for the government to tax. Slashing tax rates induces an investment boom, higher profits, and higher incomes — more for

By Sheldon Richman

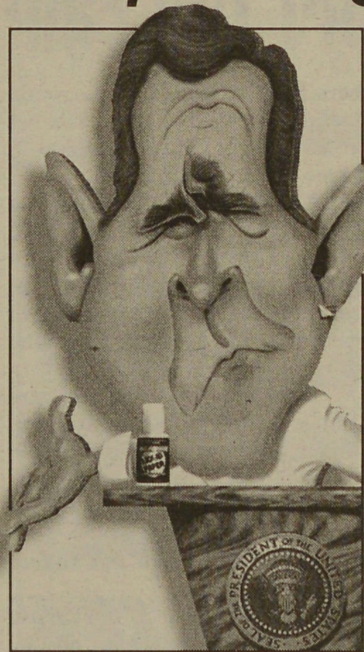


Illustration by Dion Socia

the government to tax.

Not that that is a good thing. Remember, taxation is the politicians' way of stealing. If government revenues go up after a tax cut, it means taxes weren't cut enough. This is the point that not enough people get: Money in the government's hands isn't some-

thing to rejoice over.

Money in the government's hands is nothing more than consumption directed by politicians. If the money is left in the hands of its producers, we get consumer-directed investment.

Who should be making the money decisions: Short-sighted, re-election-oriented career politicians who rarely suffer personally when they squander hundreds of billions, or the people who actually take risks and produce wealth by serving consumers? It's a no-brainer.

Keep your money

Another point that needs to be driven home often is that tax cuts don't cost the American people anything. If the government abstains from taking money from you, how can that be construed as costly? You're being permitted to keep your own money!

So when the big-taxers complain that a tax cut will "cost" some number of trillions of dollars, remember two things: The government's take may actually rise and the only cost, if any, is to the government and its clients,

who aren't entitled to the money anyway.

And please, let's not hear any more grousing about how most of the cuts go to higher-income people. That's who pays most of the taxes! They also do most of the saving and investing, which raises the living standards of the rest of us. The bottom 50% of earners account for only 4% of the income-tax take.

There is one thing we know for sure. This is the end of the tax-cut discussion in Washington. A president gets one shot, if that, at cutting taxes. Mr. Bush had his chance. He blew it.

I said it was the end of the tax cut discussion. There is never an end to the tax-increase discussion. Don't think for a moment that because this bill has passed, taxes can't be raised during the next four years. They can. Keep an eye on Sen. John McCain.

■ About the author: Sheldon Richman is senior fellow at The Future of Freedom Foundation in Fairfax, Virginia. He is the author of *Tethered Citizens: Time to Repeal the Welfare State*.

The Forum

The problem with government education

Can you imagine living in a country where all the citizens are required to serve time; go through metal detectors watched by armed guards; are subject to strip searches and forced medication; and are required to attend certain mandatory classes where politically correct thought is taught? Where troublemakers are identified early and often, and further punishment is given until they conform — stamping out creativity and independent thought?

Of course, being government run, these institutions would be managed by inept government officials who ignore basic liberties and sovereign rights — and violators of the arbitrary and ridiculous rules would have no right of appeal or trial.

Where are you picturing this prison environment?

Dictatorship?

The old Soviet Union or Nazi Germany? Communist China or Cuba? A third world military dictatorship?

Guess again. These penal conditions describe government-run public schools right here in America. But let's remember, the students haven't committed any crimes. At least, not what Libertarians would consider crimes.

Some recent "crimes" committed in New Jersey:

■ A fourth grader from Upper Elementary School was suspended and ordered to undergo a psychological evaluation after mentioning to a friend his intent to "shoot" a classmate with a paper wad.

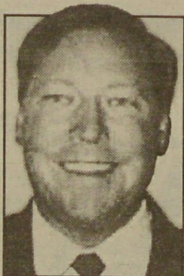
■ A hearing-impaired 12-year-old in Branchburg was ordered to stop signing on a school bus and suspended for three days (later overturned) because it "posed a safety hazard."

■ An exemplary high school student in Long Branch was suspended for dying her hair pink.

■ Four Sayreville kindergartners were suspended for three days for pretending their fingers were guns and saying they wanted to shoot each other.

Want more? Some of the "crimes" committed by students from around the country:

■ In Danville, Virginia eight middle school students were suspended for one week after they were caught sniffing Kool-Aid.



By Lou Elwell

■ A 12-year-old in Omaha, Nebraska was expelled for possession of blunt-edged scissors.

■ In Reno, Nevada, a 10-day suspension was given to a middle school girl for making a list of students who "frustrated" her.

■ A student wearing a White Zombie (rock band) T-shirt was suspended in Westerly, Rhode Island. The student sued and the school has spent over \$60,000 in legal fees defending the lawsuit.

For a glimpse of the future, look to Canada. A Halifax student was suspended and may face criminal charges for wearing Aqua Velva deodorant in violation of the school's no-scent policy.

And in Cornwall, nine students were suspended for having lunch at a Hooter's Restaurant during a two-hour free period on a class trip.

Zero tolerance policies — containing zero common sense — have led to the town of Lockney, Texas becoming the first school district in America to require drug testing for all sixth through 12th graders.

Presumed innocent? Restrictions against unreasonable search and seizure? Freedom of expression? School officials believe

these rights are quaint ideas sometimes mentioned in history classes, but certainly not applicable to students in government schools in America.

My parents and all three of my siblings were/are teachers in government-run schools and I taught at the university level for three semesters. So, let's be crystal clear here; it is the system that doesn't work, not the teachers — many of whom are even more frustrated with the system than the students or parents. After all, how do they find time to teach when they are required to enforce all these crazy school policies?

Absurd rules that waste time

and resources while stigmatizing students are just a small part of the problem with government-run public schools. The problem is so severe that thousands of parents choose home schooling and private schools, and George W. Bush declared national literacy a "national emergency."

America, famous for its commitment to freedom and liberty, allows a near-monopoly in education that unnecessarily punishes the students, delivers a poor product, offers indifferent service, and resists innovation.

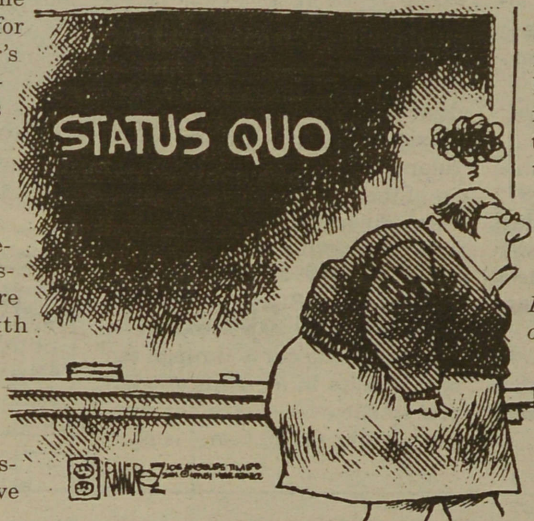
The Libertarian solution? Get government out of education entirely.

Innovation

Food, shelter, and clothing are some of life's necessities, but we don't rely on the government to grow food, build houses, or run garment factories. Letting the free market rule has provided constant improvement with innovations in product quality, service and price in other industries. Why not education?

Fundamental change is needed that can only come from the forces of competition brought on by free enterprise in education. Many say education is too important to be left to the free market. I say education is too important to be left to government.

■ **About the author:** Lou Elwell is an At-Large Member of the New Jersey LP Steering Committee and editor of Monmouth County LP's newsletter, Shore Liberty. This essay was reprinted from the June 2001 New Jersey Libertarian.



Why the LP should support the FairTax (national sales tax)

A 23% sales tax is better than what we have now — and it would eliminate the hated IRS

I am sure many of you saw Harry Browne's presidential campaign ad with the IRS building being demolished. Well, Harry might not have been elected, but it is possible the IRS will be gone before the next presidential election.

This is not a pipe dream and will not require the magic of David Copperfield, but rather the simple solution of HB 2525, what is known as "The FairTax."

Tax law change

This is a plan that was developed by several think tanks, universities, consultants, and input from focus groups. Special TV commercials were even developed and run in certain cities to see what the public's concerns were, and what a change in tax law must and must not do.

Here are the key points of the FairTax:

■ Consumption is taxed, not

production.

■ Federal government funding is from a national sales tax, collected at the point of retail sale.

■ All payroll taxes, including FICA (Social Security and Medicare) are eliminated.

■ All taxes on income, whether from work, interest, dividends, gifts, inheritance, capital gains, and so on, are ended.

■ The sham of corporate taxation is abolished, because corporations will not be taxed for anything.

■ The tax burden on low and middle income people is reduced or eliminated, because everyone will get a "prebate" on the taxes they will pay to maintain a minimum standard of living.

To amplify this just a bit, it is estimated that a family of four currently needs, in round num-

By Steven Sass

bers, \$20,000 to get by. This would mean that with the FairTax set at 23%, they will pay \$4,600 in taxes under this program.

That family will therefore be given monthly checks of \$383.33, to cover this new cost. Every family of four gets the same size check, while a different payment would go to single individuals, couples, etc.

To insure simplicity, there are almost no exceptions to any rules. Among the few exceptions are:

■ No tax on used items, whether used clothing, a used car, or a used home.

■ Charities are not taxed, governments are.

The national Libertarian Party has not issued an official statement on this proposed law, but the issue is more with you as an individual. Why should the FairTax appeal to Libertarians?

1. The IRS will be abolished. This agency, which can terrorize citizens more than the FBI or DEA, produces nothing but paper and torment — and it will be gone.

Administration of the

FairTax will often be by states, as an adjunct to their own sales tax agencies. Firms that do the collecting, and states that do the processing, would all be given a fraction of a percent of the amount they collect, thus ensuring that they are not working for free. It is estimated that there will be about 14 million organizations filing tax forms, much less than the 120 million individuals that file income tax forms.

\$225 billion

In addition to saving the \$25 billion that it takes to operate the IRS, it is estimated that individuals and corporations pay \$225 billion per year to comply with the IRS. The annual saving under the FairTax is larger than the Bush tax cut — and that doesn't include the time you and I have to put into collecting tax information.

2. While the FairTax is designed to be revenue neutral, and give the federal government as much money as it has been taking in, the tax will be much more visible to individuals, and they

will be much more concerned with federal spending.

If you have ever been to a casino, you know the house prefers to have you play with chips rather than dollar bills. They do that because you don't feel the loss of a green chip labeled \$25 as much as you would feel a loss of five \$5 bills. Because of withholding and payment in the form of checks or bank credits, I think the federal government has done the same thing to its citizens. Paying a tax with every purchase will be felt, and that will cause change.

There is much more I would like to say, but this is just an introduction. You can get further information by calling (800) FairTax or visiting the website: www.fairtax.org.

All of us feel the government is too big and too meddlesome. The FairTax will not, by itself, end that, but it will move us a long way on the right road.

■ **About the author:** Steven Sass is a member of the Maryland Libertarian Party.

The Panic of '07 and the birth of the Federal Reserve

*How did the Fed get its awesome power?
And is it really beneficial to the economy?*

Financial markets breathlessly await the next pronouncement from Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan, waiting to see whether he will move interest rates up or down. Libertarians may wonder why we have entrusted such a vital function to a government employee. How did the Federal Reserve Board gain this power, and have we ever tried a free market alternative?

To most Americans, these questions are heresy. Of course the government must "manage the economy." And yet, the Federal Reserve System did not exist prior to 1913. Before that date, central banking and monetary creation were managed by private banks — and managed well. How did this work?

From time immemorial, bankers have feared "runs." Banks allow their depositors to withdraw their money at any

time, but typically loan it out via fixed term agreements. If enough depositors withdraw their money at the same time, a bank will fail.

To guard against this possibility, bankers prior to the establishment of the Federal Reserve would establish lines of credit with larger banks. In the event of a run, the smaller bank would draw on the line of credit.

Police the system

The larger banks, or "central banks," would evaluate the credit worthiness of their smaller clients before granting this privilege. In this way, the central banks helped to police the system and keep shady small-time operators out of business. Nobody would entrust serious money to a small bank not protected against a run by a larger partner.

The system was not perfect. In times of panic, large numbers of depositors would clamor to

withdraw money. Only the largest Wall Street banks, with millions of dollars in reserve, could guard against such a calamity.

One such panic occurred in 1907. Several large corporations and stock brokerages went bankrupt that summer. Stock prices fell, causing traders to withdraw money from banks to cover their losses. A nationwide recession loomed. If the situation deteriorated much further, one banker predicted, it would "make all previous panics look like child's play."

J.P. Morgan, the legendary founder of one of Wall Street's largest investment banks, swung into action to meet the crisis. He assembled a team of bank and trust executives who met around the clock in Morgan's library every day for three weeks. The men had every incentive to act forcefully. Their own businesses and vast fortunes were on the line.

Under Morgan's direction, the team redirected money from

By Jim Klann

strong to weak banks, secured further lines of credit overseas, and bought stock in distressed but still sound corporations. In a few weeks the panic passed, with only minimal effects on the country.

Investigated crisis

Morgan did not receive the thanks of a grateful nation. The politicians of the "Progressive Era," anxious for any excuse to expand state power, smelled blood in the water. A House of Representatives committee chaired by Rep. Arsene Pujo (D-LA) investigated the crisis. Morgan, it turned out, had profited by his actions in saving the country! The stocks he had purchased at fire sale prices had increased in value.

This could not be tolerated. In 1913, Congress created the Federal Reserve System and converted central banking into a government monopoly. All nationally chartered banks were required to maintain reserves with a regional Federal Reserve Bank. (Previous laws already restricted banks without a national charter.) The regional reserve banks would be managed not for profit but in the "public interest," by political appointees.

Did the new system work? The next panic occurred in 1929. Stock prices overheated, fueled by commercial banks borrowing from Federal Reserve Banks (with little supervision) and lending to stock brokers. Then the stock market crashed, followed quickly by the broader economy. By fall 1930, hundreds of banks were

again in danger of failure.

And the governors of the Federal Reserve, safe in their political sinecures and with no real stake in the system, did . . . nothing. Interest rates remained high, and more than 5,000 banks were simply allowed to fail. Recent histories of the period have described the Fed of the time as under a "vacuum of leadership" which had "wrought near paralysis" and as treating the economy "for fever long after it had begun to freeze to death."

Should we expect any better from a government body?

Gold standard

The Fed did not see its powers reduced as a result of its failure. On the contrary, it saw its role augmented. In 1933, President Franklin Roosevelt took the United States off of the gold standard, leaving the Fed with control over all aspects of the nation's money supply — and paving the way for the horrendous inflation of the 1960's and 1970's.

Today, to be sure, we avoid such extremes. We have seen neither severe inflation nor prolonged depression over the last 20 years. The media hail Alan Greenspan as a deity, and most Americans cannot even conceive of privatizing the Fed. Libertarians, however, know better — free markets were doing Greenspan's job long before he was born.

■ **About the author:** Jim Klann is a Libertarian Party member in Glendale Heights, Illinois.

Sex Police in Butler County?

Have the Sex Police arrived in Butler County, Ohio?

Well, maybe not. But with the formation of the county's suspiciously Orwellian-sounding "Obscenity Task Force" against the sale and distribution of pornography and other sexually explicit materials, the First Amendment is in definite danger.

Butler County commissioners have approved an additional \$120,000 for the establishment of the Task Force in County Prosecutor Robin Pipers' office. The cost to operate the Task Force for a year is estimated to be \$200,000.

Piper, whose 2000 campaign included a promise to aggressively prosecute those people and businesses accused of pandering obscenity, said county residents "do not wish to have this type of material prevalent in our communities."

"It is important that Butler County recognize obscenity and take the real steps necessary to fight against pornography and obscenity becoming a staple in our communities," said Piper in requesting the additional funds.

The Task Force will be comprised of a full-time attorney, an investigator, and an administrative assistant.

"It's a specialized area of prosecution," said Piper spokesman Joe Statzer. "And we've been looking at a couple of people who would be good in that unit."

And once again, the fight to legislate morality rears its ugly head.

Cracking down on "obscenity" was the crux of Piper's campaign.

But many voters failed to ask the most important question: Why? Did it ever occur to Mr. Piper that perhaps individual Butler Countians know what they themselves find offensive and do not purchase such materials? Did it not occur to the voters or Mr. Piper that perhaps these people are adults fully capable of deciding for themselves?

Your choice

The owners of these businesses simply provide these materials to adults who wish to buy them, and they have every right to do so. If you don't want to buy them, don't buy them! If you do, that must be your choice as well.

What I find truly obscene (and so should you) is the idea that a group of people who don't know me are so arrogantly presumptuous as to feel the overriding need to create another money-hungry program to "protect" me from something that has not and will not do me harm.

■ **About the author:** George Combs II is a Libertarian Party member in Ohio.

By George Combs II



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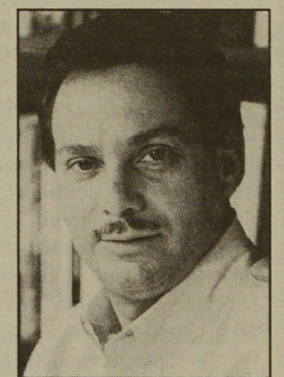
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FROM the Chair

How to avoid being a knee-jerk libertarian

In working with Libertarian candidates and activists around the country, I have observed that many Libertarians have difficulty selling the "product." This is sometimes due to the use of ill-considered comments in favor of liberty or against government action (sometimes called *knee-jerk libertarianism*). Examples of this problem:

■ **Some Libertarians evidently believe the market will take care of whatever problems occur.** Unfortunately, perfection is not one of the market's many virtues.

The market cannot guarantee someone's desired optimal outcome. It is possible that some people will be unable to obtain life-saving medicines, historic architectural structures may be leveled to build parking lots, some flora and fauna may become extinct due to human activities, etc.

Of course, there is usually little reason to believe non-market arrangements will produce superior outcomes. Regardless, Libertarians should understand the limits of markets.

■ **Many Libertarians offer apodictic opinions concerning public policy matters about which they are ignorant.** A Libertarian acquaintance of mine gave a speech blasting the Food & Drug Administration for the problems caused by its review process for new drugs and medical devices. Unfortunately, he knew little about actual FDA approval procedures, and offered little rigorous analysis in support of his arguments.

Although his basic point was correct, regulation supporters used his errors to cast doubt about his conclusions.

■ **Some Libertarians make derogatory comments about government employees.** Many government employees are sympathetic to us, perhaps because they frequently see first-hand the problems and failings of government action.

Also, casting unjustified aspersions upon government workers may not impress the general public. (In my town, Post Office employees are polite, helpful people who do a pretty good job.)

■ **Many Libertarians don't understand how many people perceive government programs.** While we may see certain government programs as costly activities of questionable benefit, our neighbors may see substantial benefits at a reasonable cost from a benevolent government. This is not surprising, since the benefits are usually easy to see while the costs of government are usually difficult to calculate.

Overcoming the problem? Some suggestions:

1) **Intellectual integrity.** Be scrupulously rigorous in your advocacy. Accuracy builds credibility; a lack of integrity makes us look foolish or dishonest. (How do you react when a statist offers an inaccurate or illogical defense of his position?)

When criticizing government programs, do your homework and get your facts straight. Don't give opponents opportunities to deflect attention from your major points.

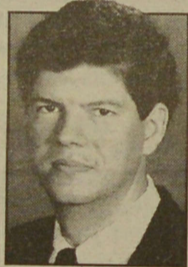
2) **The importance of rhetoric.** "Rhetoric" has a somewhat negative connotation. However, the term originally meant the art of structuring arguments so that they flow in an easily understood, compelling manner. Invest the time to craft your message so that it takes its most compelling form.

Understand that your words won't always be understood as you intend. If I say "Abolish the FDA," I envision benefits: lower prices, more diversity, less suffering. However, my listeners have different visions: Thalidomide-deformed children, botulism, etc. People see the FDA as their protector against dangerous drugs, without realizing that FDA protection also produces victims.

3) **Patience.** Many libertarian arguments are counter-intuitive; thus, people need time to consider fully our ideas. Patience with prospects usually pays off handsomely; even if you can't convince someone to become a Libertarian or vote Libertarian, you may prevent that someone from becoming hostile.

4) **Practice!** To become an accomplished advocate for liberty, you must practice. This is true whether your advocacy occurs when chatting with friends during coffee breaks or when addressing auditoriums filled with unsympathetic people.

Keep these four suggestions in mind, and I think you'll find other people more responsive to your Libertarian arguments.



By Jim Lark,
National Chair

The case for immigration as a huge economic, cultural benefit

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

By Jonathan Trager
LP NEWS STAFF WRITER

Picture this: A society of skyrocketing welfare rolls, disappearing jobs, and a citizenry with no sense of "American values."

Is this an accurate picture of a society without immigration restrictions?

Some politicians want you to think so. Hardly a year passes when a congressperson doesn't try to demonstrate so-called "patriotism" by proposing stricter and stricter laws governing who may move to and work in America.

But fiery political rhetoric can't change reality. And the reality is that Americans would be much better off without our nation's restrictive immigration regulations than with them.

126 million jobs

First off, let's consider the oft-quoted assertion that immigration costs Americans jobs. On its surface, it might sound reasonable. But dig a bit deeper, and you'll find that since 1962, the economy has grown by about 126 million jobs — despite hundreds of thousands of new immigrants arriving each year.

How is this the case?

First, many American immigrants start businesses, employing native-born American workers. According to the Cato Institute, the top three immigrant-founded firms in Silicon Valley, California alone employ more than 50,000 people.

In addition, although immigrants increase the labor supply, they also increase product demand. Increased demand for goods and services fuels economic growth and creates a greater need for workers throughout society.

This confirms a study by the Alexis de Tocqueville Institution, which analyzed economic data from the 85 most populous U.S. cities, and found that cities with high immigration rates created jobs at twice the rate of low immigration cities.

Not only do Americans benefit from increasing rates of immigration economically, but they benefit culturally as well.

After all, what would America be like without ethnic restaurants — without sushi, pizza, wiener

Libertarian Solutions

schnitzel, chicken vindaloo, or burritos? America would be a less flavorful nation without immigrants.

How about music? Imagine the radio, local clubs, and concert halls devoid of classical music, salsa, flamenco, techno, or rock 'n' roll — musical styles which originated in (or were heavily influenced by contributions from) other nations.



QUESTION:

*Does immigration take away jobs from Americans?
Is it ruining our unique culture?*

And what about foreign sports figures? Try telling the sports junkie that baseball would be the same without Sammy Sosa, or tennis without Monica Seles, or basketball without Dikembe Mutombo.

The point: It's easy to overlook the mosaic of cultural diversity that permeates American society, simply because it is so uniquely American.

In addition, anyone concerned with privacy and civil liberties should be alarmed at the idea of a full-fledged "War on Immigration" — which would basically be a human equivalent of the War on Drugs.

In fact, it's already begun. Police officers at several southern border locations have already set up roadblocks as much as 50 miles inland for purposes of "ethnic profiling," while the federal government maintains a massive database of every new employee in hopes of catching a few undocumented workers.

And can you say "national ID card?"

Optimistic

Fortunately, there is reason to be optimistic that such a nightmare won't come to pass. A 1997 national poll by the independent Grass Roots Research firm found that 62% of Americans agree that anyone, from any country in the world, should

be free to come to America — provided they don't need taxpayer money to support themselves and their families.

Clearly, the greatest concern people have with immigration is not with immigrants, per se. Their concern is with a welfare state they fear may entice individuals to enter America and immediately jump on the government-subsidized gravy train.

In that vein, here are several practical solutions that would reduce the opposition to immigration, and maximize its economic and cultural benefits for the nation:

■ End welfare handouts.

When factoring in the costs of public education and Social Security, the government actually spends less money on the average immigrant than on the typical native-born American.

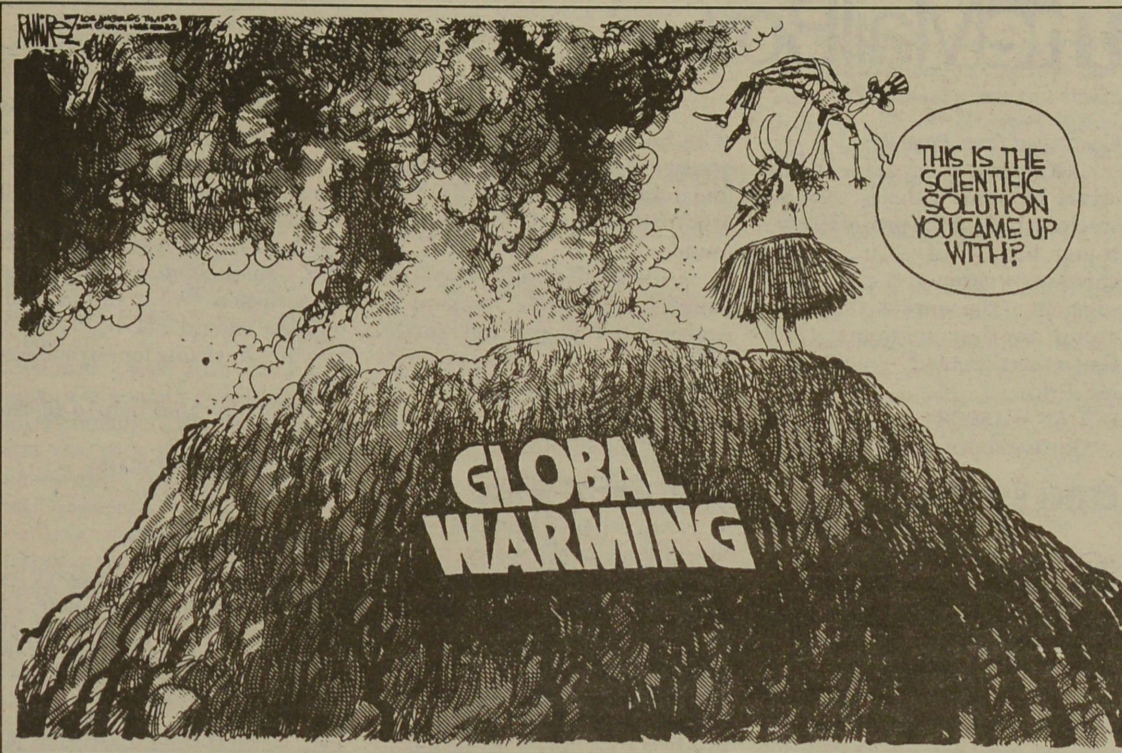
Nevertheless, uneducated immigrants are prone to using programs such as food stamps and Supplemental Security Income. For example, in 1995, the Government Accounting Office reported that noncitizens accounted for about 12% of SSI recipients, despite accounting for less than 6% of the population.

With the Welfare Reform Act of 1996, however, most immigrants were barred from receiving SSI and food stamps (with exceptions, of course). Unfortunately, state governments with large immigrant populations — notably New York, California, Texas, and Florida — have since restored a great deal of these benefits.

See IMMIGRATION Page 30

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■ Simply idiotic

I have to respond to Lew Price's letter ["Smoke Pollution," The MailBox, July, 2001] about smoking bans. The LP is "championing" the cause of smokers for a simple reason: the bureaucrats in charge are using smokers (and cigarette makers) as punching bags in a blatant money grab.

I don't smoke, never have, never will, and personally hate the smell of it. For this reason, I don't patronize places full of smoke. If Mr. Price doesn't like a business's smoking policy, he (along with the rest of the public) has a simple recourse: take his business elsewhere.

Mr. Price's comparisons of smoking to battery, murder, and poisoning of water are simply idiotic. Let business owners decide: If Mr. Price doesn't like their policies, he is free to take his business elsewhere.

— JOHN G. FERGUSON III
West Warwick, Rhode Island

■ Propaganda

Regarding the letter "Smoke Pollution," I find it ironic that a Californian would have spouted such ill-informed rhetoric.

Mr. Price states, "... that the owners of establishments serving the public should be the only ones responsible for smoking policies ... smacks of either idiocy or political propaganda."

Obviously Mr. Price is subject to the propaganda of an anti-tobacco press and censorship of information in California.

A state court in Orange County determined almost two years ago that the EPA report doctored by Prof. Stanton Glantz of the University of San Francisco on Environmental Tobacco Smoke

was based on "junk science."

And, quoting from the federal court's decision earlier (1992); "The Court is faced with the ugly possibility that EPA adopted a methodology for each chapter, without explanation, based on the outcome sought in that chapter."

With this in mind, any Libertarian should be outraged that California smoking laws were created based on this bogus report. California lawmakers refuse to look at the evidence, but continue to spend smokers' tax money on campaigns wrought with misinformation.

— MICHAEL ABRAMS
Loas Angeles, California

LAWMAKERS spend tax money on campaigns wrought with misinformation.

■ Factually incorrect

Lew Price criticized the LP's opposition to laws regulating indoor smoking, comparing indoor smoking to indoor battery and arguing in effect that the latter is not permitted, so the former should not be, either. That argument is factually incorrect.

Consider: If a 300-pound man were to wrap his arms around an unsuspecting individual and throw him to the ground, that would be considered assault. If this were to occur in the context of a football game, that would be

considered a good defensive play.

Just as the running back is aware of and accepts the risks of his game, a non-smoker accepts the risks of spending an evening in a smoking establishment. Banning the latter, then, is as sensible as banning football and other contact sports.

The libertarian position is the logically consistent one, and the one that respects the rights of property owners to establish their own rules.

— MATTHEW STOLL
Glen Oaks, New York

■ Not a public place

I disagree with Lew Price's assertion that it is idiocy or political propaganda that business owners (that serve the public) should be the only ones responsible for smoking policies in their establishments.

So does Mr. Price feel that he or, even worse, the government should make the rules? That, sir, is idiocy.

Contrary to Mr. Price's assertion, a business is not a public place. Businesspersons should have the right to include or exclude potential customers from patronizing their business. Likewise, Mr. Price has the right to choose which businesses to patronize. If he doesn't like the smoking policy of a particular establishment, then he shouldn't go there! No one is forcing him, are they?

The fact is a business owner invests his or her money and hard work in creating the business. It's up to that business owner — not you or the government — to determine how the business should be operated.

See THE MAILBOX Page 28

thePulse

Is the Drug War working?

There are, Mark Twain once said, "Lies, damned lies, and statistics."

For Libertarians, statistics showing that drug use has fallen in recent years — which drug warriors proudly hold up as evidence that the War on Drugs is "working" — may qualify as all three types of deception.

And even if the statistics are true, the War on Drugs is such a violation of our rights that nothing can justify it, say a majority of respondents to this month's unscientific Pulse survey.

The background: Between 1986 and 1991, cocaine use dropped by 72% and marijuana use dropped by two-thirds, the U.S. government claims. Our question: What explains that sharp drop in drug use? Is it proof the War on Drugs does work?

Your answer: It doesn't matter if the statistics are true. In fact, 47.6% argued that the War on Drugs is such "an aggressive violation of human rights" that no optimistic statistics can justify it.

In second place, with 14.3% of the vote, were two other explanations: Either that such statistics are dubious (because people are unwilling to tell the truth about illegal activity, or because government bureaucrats fudged the numbers), or that concerns about health convinced people to voluntarily reduce their drug use.

Tied for third place (9.5%) were two other theories: Growing economic prosperity reduced drug use, or some people switched to new or different drugs (perhaps illegal ones like ecstasy, or legal ones like alcohol).

Here is a representative sampling of responses:

■ I don't believe anything the drug warriors say. How can you possibly get accurate self-reported data on illegal activity? And the numbers don't matter anyway: whether it's an increase or a decrease in drug use, the politicians will use it as a rationale for wasting more billions on the drug war, which is itself immoral.

— ALAN M. PERLMAN, Highland Park, Illinois

■ Teenagers were receiving the message from people in their own age group that drugs do more harm than good to a person's body. Someone who they could relate to was delivering an anti-drug message. The "forbidden fruit" was not as tempting anymore.

— MICHAEL LINDER, Edgewood, Maryland

■ While it is true that drug use is down, it is also true that alcohol use dropped during Prohibition. Yet politicians of that era needed only 15 years to recognize that their "noble experiment" was, in fact, an unqualified failure. This is in sad contrast with today's drug war which, if we trace its origin to Nixon's administration, has been going on for twice as long with no end in sight.

— DAVID BITET, Deer Park, New York

■ The sharp decline is not due to the War on Drugs because drugs are even easier to get now than they were then. The drug use has declined because of the educative and informative commercials about them and from the commercials about tobacco as well. Education about what these things do to you is what stops people from doing them, not the War on Drugs.

— NATHAN EAMES, St. George, Utah

■ Post hoc, ergo propter hoc (after this, therefore because of this) misleads many into assuming a causal connection where there is none. My own guess is that, like all social fads, drug use came and is now going as kids tire of it, it is no longer the province of youth, or a new fad is cooler.

— RICHARD FUERLE, Grand Island, New York

■ If there has been a decrease in drug use, does the government get the credit or does it have something to do with the economy improving? Maybe there's less drug use because of lower unemployment or healthier lifestyles. Whatever the cause(s), nothing justifies the government trampling over the Constitution.

— ED SCHILL, Glendale Heights, Illinois

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ThePulse

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■ I would have to first question the statistics. It seems that those gathering this information have a decided stake in crunching the numbers in the most beneficial way. I would also question the law enforcement warriors as to their motivations. Drugs are big business, and if it's legalized, they lose their asset forfeiture laws!

— BUCK BANNISTER, Newberry, South Carolina

■ First, the end doesn't justify the means. Second, how can we believe what the government reports? Finally, because of laws, using illegal drugs has become expensive and dangerous, so many users turn to legal drugs (alcohol, tobacco, prescription). The number of addicts remain the same.

— MARY LIVINGSTON, Omaha, Nebraska

■ Sure, the War on Drugs is working, but at the cost of Fourth Amendment rights, privacy, and harm to innocent people, such as the American missionary in Peru and her months-old infant. The War on Drugs has also made the drug market grisly and violent, and has driven up the price of drugs. We need to ask ourselves just what the point is in filling up prisons with drug users who aren't really hurting anybody (except maybe themselves).

— SCOTT GORDON, Longwood, Florida

■ The reason why coke and pot use has supposedly dropped? For more than one reason: Firstly, use among young adults has spread out to other drugs like ecstasy. Secondly, there is a growing health consciousness among both kids and adults that is totally unrelated to government efforts. Finally, if the statistics are produced by the government, do I believe them anyway? ... Er, no.

— MIKE OUSEY, West Chester, Pennsylvania

Oct. Question: Lesser of 2 Evils?

Over the past several months, there has been a flurry of media attention about the LP's impact on the U.S. Senate. The *National Review* reported that Libertarians "are seriously hurting Republicans," because votes for LP candidates may have cost the GOP two U.S. Senate seats — and control of that body. The *Pantagraph* (Bloomington, IL) reported: "A new 'giant killer' has emerged in Washington, DC." But do we really want to be a "giant killer" if we take votes away from the least-bad candidate (say, a libertarian-leaning Republican) and cause the "greater of two evils" (say, a socialist Democrat) to get elected? Or, is it our job to run candidates — and not worry about what happens to Republicans or Democrats?

■ Question: Should the LP sit out races when our candidate might cause the "lesser of two evils" — whether Republican or Democrat — to lose? Or should we compete in every race we can, no matter the consequences? (Please keep answer to 100 words or less.)

■ DEADLINE: September 8, 2001

Sept. Question: Local v. national?

It's a debate that has raged for as long as the party has existed: Should the party focus on local, winnable campaigns — or on high-profile state and federal races? We'll call the two viewpoints "The Localists" versus "The Nationalists." On one side, some Libertarians say "all politics is local." The LP will succeed, they argue, by focusing relentlessly on winnable local races, and by pouring resources into local affiliates. Until we elect thousands of local Libertarians we'll go nowhere, they declare. The other side says: Sounds good in theory, but it won't work. They argue the LP needs high-profile races like the presidential campaign or a well-publicized U.S. Senate bid to energize activists and recruit new members.

■ Question: Do we need a local or national strategy? Are local races/affiliates the answer ... or the national LP/high-profile races? (Keep answer to 100 words or less.)

■ DEADLINE: August 8, 2001

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

Continued from Page 27

Of course, he or she would be smart to create policies that attract the bulk of the potential customer base. But, if he or she chooses to cater to a particular segment of the market, thus foregoing another segment, then that's their problem — not yours, Mr. Price.

— DAN WASSER

Gaithersburg, Maryland

■ Not astonishing

"Government is compassion" by Glen Allport [July 2001] was very much to the point, but I disagree with his statement that "The popular success of socialist ideas is astonishing ..."

I don't think it is astonishing at all. Nietzsche nailed it when he pointed out that the reason for socialism's popular support was that it gives the have-nots an opportunity to take from the haves.

— GENE M. STOVER

Porterville, California

■ Sign the petition

I'm writing to ask that each libertarian sign the proclamation for the Separation of School and State i.e. "I proclaim publicly that I favor ending government involvement in education," which is available at www.sepschool.org.

Ending government involvement in education is vital to the success of the libertarian movement. The fathers of our modern school system intentionally modeled the Prussian system with the goal of preparing our children for obedience and service to the state.

They have created a government school system that is fundamentally rooted in socialism. Just imagine the inherent difficulty of a tax funded, government-employed teacher trying to teach the principles of liberty in a government owned and operated school.

Government schools are one reason that so many people today look to government activism to solve our country's challenges. Government schools have driven taxes higher and higher while producing dismal academic performance, inculcating a culture of moral relativism, and providing an environment of drugs and violence.

We must return responsibility for education, including fiscal responsibility, to children's parents, and re-introduce the innovation and cost-efficiency of the open market to our educational system.

You can help. Please take five minutes to publicly proclaim your support for ending the government schooling system.

— S. DOUGLAS LEARD

Blue Bell, Pennsylvania

■ Not unique

Many readers made mention in the July issue [The MailBox] of Gary Thomas' experience with police in an unwarranted search

of his home, detailed in an earlier issue. I think the main thing to understand here is that Mr. Thomas' experience is by no means unique.

Unlawful abuse of police power is absolutely rampant in America today, and libertarian solutions are the only ones that are going to ever stop it.

— ALEX KNIGHT

Kittery, Maine

■ No forced drugs

I am relieved that the death-threat man in Washington state was apprehended and tried [LP News, July 2001].

The article in "News Briefs" appears to condone the state forcing a citizen to take drugs (prescribed medication). I am opposed to any state's forced medical policies against any citizen. I am also opposed to the state dictating what a citizen cannot take.

— A. BUCKLEY

Cambridge, Massachusetts

THE DRAFT:
*Here's another
 reason to abolish
 it — it's sex
 discrimination.*

■ Agree on draft

In your July 2001 issue, you detailed the Campaign to End Selective Service, an effort I completely agree with. LP member Marc Brandl deserves to be commended for his work toward abolishing the draft.

Here is another reason for its abolition: The draft is sex discrimination. It declares that some individuals have a legal obligation to be in the military, under penalty of law, simply because they are male. There is nothing in the United States Constitution to support this type of discriminatory law.

Additionally, there are certain Amendments to the Constitution prohibiting the draft. The 14th and 19th Amendments state that all individuals have "equal protection" under the law, regardless of race or sex. Also, the 13th Amendment states that neither slavery "nor any [other] form of involuntary servitude" should exist within the United States. Since being drafted to serve the Penta-

gon is not voluntary service, it obviously would be forbidden.

Perhaps the Libertarian Party should update its platform language to include the following: "We seek to prohibit all forms of involuntary servitude to any government or any others. Recall that involuntary servitude is forbidden by the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which includes conscription and taxation. Individuals should not be forced to sacrifice anything for anyone else, ever."

Wouldn't that help to destroy statism!

— ADRIAN C. HINTON

Cincinnati, Ohio

■ Malcontent?

Most Libertarians don't like scandal and investigations and don't want their money squandered away on such efforts [LP News, July 2001].

I appeal to that majority to look at what the Libertarian National Committee (LNC) has for an employment policy, because the policy is destructive and was altered under crisis mode in 1995. The Willis affair could have been avoided had the party used a management process like TQM (Total Quality Management).

The LNC has a two-tiered policy, one for the LNC and one extra policy just for employees. The argument for this two-tiered policy has been that the LNC are members of the party and have a vested interest and the employees do not.

This distinction is a false one. The employees do have a vested interest in the party, for they are dependent on the party for their bread and butter. They cannot quit their job as easily as you or I could cancel our membership.

How bad is the LNC employee policy? Some have been trying to get the policy extended to the LNC but a number of members object to such extension as unreasonable and unworkable as was witnessed at the convention in 1998. If it's bad for the LNC, how good is the policy for the employee?

Finally, the LNC is limited in its power. The LNC only meets four times a year. The membership needs to ask: Has the LNC been hijacked by malcontents who can only find problems and offer no solutions? The people complaining about the ends not justifying the means have yet to provide a means of getting anywhere.

— ANDREW SULLIVAN

Omaha, Nebraska

■ No mention

I was relieved to see coverage in July's LP News of the May 11 admission by Perry Willis that he lied to the party about his continued work for the 1996 Harry Browne for President campaign during a period when he had been specifically warned as an LP employee not to favor one potential nominee over others.

It appears that Jack Dean and Harry Browne, at a mini-
 See THE MAILBOX Page 29

Beginner's Introduction

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— KEN SCHOOLAND

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The MailBox

Continued from Page 28

mum, were also aware of the deception.

Harry Browne and his staff worked hard for the Libertarian cause and brought a lot of new people into the LP. Fortunately, National Chair Jim Lark and most of the other National Committee members appear to realize that the ends do not justify the means and that this matter cannot be ignored.

Unfortunately, the *LP News* article contains no mention of Jacob Hornberger's attempts to let people know of this and other problems with the 1996 Browne campaign when Harry Browne sought the party's presidential nomination for a second time in 2000. Hornberger's efforts made him the target of abuse from Libertarians and caused some to oppose his candidacy and to withdraw support for his Future of Freedom Foundation.

I hope that this turn of events will cause those who denounced him for his charges against Willis and others to apologize. Hornberger deserves to be recognized by this publication and by our national leaders for his courage in making himself unpopular and taking a financial hit by speaking out when most prominent Libertarians chose not to.

— **STARCHILD**
San Francisco, California

Cell phone ban

New York's ban on hand-held cellular telephone use by drivers of automobiles is appropriate. It is designed to protect individuals from harm or death caused by the irresponsibility of others.

Libertarian ideals embrace freedom for adults to act responsibly for themselves and not to infringe on the freedom or safety of others. These ideals condemn laws that create victimless crimes, such as the seatbelt law. Requiring adults to do things that have no bearing on the freedom of safety of others is contrary to the freedoms guaranteed in our Constitution.

New York's ban on hand-held cellular telephones in automobiles addresses an irresponsible behavior that has a direct bearing on the safety of others.

Although the law represents growing government control, it is a rare example of a legitimate control. Only time will tell how appropriately the bureaucrats go about enforcing this law.

— **FRANK D. NESBIT**
Acworth, Georgia

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Napster: Responsibility

Regarding the MP3/Napster issue [*LP News*, May-July 2001], I can't believe there are readers who find it acceptable to steal someone else's work product. To me that's a lot more libertine than libertarian.

If someone gives away their work freely, or accepts voluntary payments like shareware, then they're free to do so. But if someone wishes to make a living by selling their product, acquiring it without paying for it is clearly and obviously theft.

Yes, it's easy to copy digital media, yet abusing freedom is the surest way to diminish it. With greater freedom comes greater responsibility. If we value freedom we should behave responsibly.

— **JEFF CHAN**
Los Altos, California

Napster: Ironic

I found it ironic and amusing that in the same issue of the *LP News* [June 2001] where there appeared three letters related to the Napster case criticizing the idea of intellectual property, the LP announced that it had registered as a trademark the name Libertarian Party and the slogan "The Party of Principle." (Is there still time to withdraw our application?)

The Napster case has raised important questions for Libertarians. Libertarians are the champions of private property rights, but in what types of property and for what reasons and under what circumstances?

Should property rights be enforced only with regard to physical property because it cannot be shared, as the first letter maintains? Should computer downloads be allowed since only a few people abuse this procedure, as the second letter maintains? Should computer downloads be allowed since it would be difficult to enforce the law, as the third letter suggests?

The name "libertarian" originally meant a person who advocated a form of anarcho-communism. Modern American libertarians appropriated this name to mean a person who advocates private property. If there can be no such thing as intellectual property, will the LP be content to share the name "libertarian" with anarcho-communists?

— **DAVID HOSCHIEDT**
Bloomington, Illinois

Napster: Fair trade

I would like to respond to Troy Klyber's letter, "No Property Right" [June 2001]: I would like to ask you to re-evaluate your position on the topic of copyright law.

You support the position that "intellectual property," such as a song that can be downloaded over

NAPSTER/MP3:
*"It's easy to copy
digital media, yet
abusing freedom
is the surest way
to diminish it."*

the Internet via Napster, is not a property right of the artist that created the song. Your supporting premise is that the copy can be made without harm to anyone, including the artist. You do support property rights when it comes to "non-intellectual property," such as cars and houses.

I believe your position is wrong because your premise is false. The artist wants to sell you a copy of the song and you want the copy. The disagreement is the price, you want it for free and they want some non-zero amount of money.

The important concept here is your desire for the artist's product. The artist's effort is what caused your desire, and the artist has set a price for a copy of their product (their effort). Your cost is the effort you would have to expend to meet that price. It's your decision.

If you meet the artist's price,

then you and the artist have a fair trade. If you decide to take a copy for a lower cost to you because of your desire for the product (their effort), then you and the artist do not have a fair trade.

You are the one who caused the un-fair trade, you are the one who took the copy. You harmed the artist by devaluing their effort. They didn't take your effort, you took theirs. Copyright is a property right.

— **JOHN S. BEATTY**
Prescott, Arizona

Epicurean Party?

In the June 2001 issue of *LP News*, suggestions for renaming the LP included the "Peace Party" or the "Libertine Party."

Peace has a double meaning. Marxists mean the elimination of anticommunist resistance — including Libertarians! This definition eliminates this possibility.

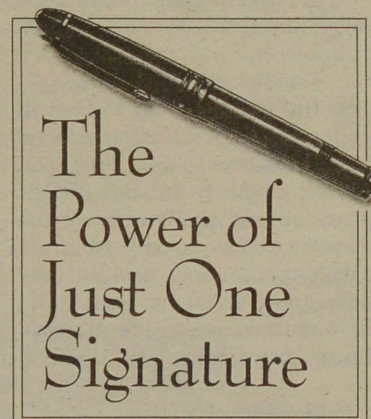
"Libertine" is used as an insult by Christian opponents of the LP because of our stand on drugs, prostitution, and contracts. It smears by identifying us with Epicureans who practiced lasciviousness without individual responsibility.

— **JEFFREY DIKET**
New Orleans, Louisiana

NRA and IDs

Libertarians who are members of the National Rifle Association may be interested in an NRA-ILA Fax Alert (March 23, 2001,

See **THE MAILBOX** Page 30



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

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TheMailBox

Continued from Page 29

Vol. 8, #12), which states in part:

"The solution lies in state-issued driver licenses or ID cards that serve as the basis of identification for virtually all transactions of money, goods, and services. Some states are working to improve their identification systems, and have moved to address ID fraud with measures that confirm identity and residence before issuing IDs.

"Other measures, such as duplicate photos on the license, are effective in preventing tampering after issuance. NRA has long supported such reforms, and we will continue to do so."

The problem being addressed by the NRA is that of fraudulent ID being used by criminals to obtain a firearm through the present restrictive regulations.

In this member's opinion, the cure is worse than the malady.

— John T. Mullen
Berne, New York

Interesting coincidence

In the LP News, July 2001:

- Affiliate News: Michigan, "Outreach Poll: Majority of Bikers are Libertarian."

- The Mailbox: "Police road-block," and "Seatbelt outrage."

What an interesting coinci-

dence that these three items appeared in the same issue. It's about time someone in the Libertarian Party caught on to what the bikers have been battling since the first mandatory helmet laws for motorcyclists were passed back in, oh...1966 (?)

All one need do is substitute the word "helmets" for "seatbelts" in the two letters to the editor.

There exists a large untapped pool of Libertarian-thinking people riding motorcycles. The Midwest Michigan LP has brought this to light. Others should take note.

— GEORGE MASEK
Maryville, Tennessee

Article is too kind

Your recent article about Social Security [Libertarian Solutions, June 2001] is too kind to our president and Congress.

The article fails to mention that Congress and the Presidents have increased the Social Security tax several times over the past few decades, all in the name of storing up money for the Baby Boomers' retirement. And then they have proceeded to spend every penny of that extra Social Security money on programs unrelated to retirement, pensions, and Social Security. The actual

amount spent on pensions for the elderly is approximately the same as before the tax rate was increased.

Congress and the Presidents have squandered trillions of dollars in this way, and replaced it with unfunded and unsecured IOUs (which, to be fair, your article did mention). I am told that, despite these trillions in additional taxation, the Social Security fund has less than two months' cash reserves — at times, less than two weeks'.

This is probably the greatest act of theft in the history of the human race. The crime is so tremendous that the average mind cannot grasp it, and so the American people continue to elect history's worst and/or stupidest thieves.

— TOM KANE
Floresville, Texas

Bait & switch

Our Republican president sent his budget proposal to Congress, asking for an increase of 4% in government spending. The Republican Congress responds by claiming that's not enough of an increase, and adds another 3%, for a total increase



sume with its own version of tax code tinkering.

Yes, this is the same Republican Party that has for years claimed to be for tax cuts and smaller government.

The only thing going for the Republican Party, which allows it to maintain its present support, is what the party *claims* to stand for. But this has nothing to do with what they do once in power.

This "bait and switch" maneuver continues to give Republicans the aura of being somehow different from the tax-and-spend Democrats, when in fact the two are very similar.

— MIKE THIBODEAUX
Oscar, Louisiana

Deregulation?

In his letter [May 2001], Richard Zacher implies that electricity "deregulation" in California resulted in the current shortage of power and rate hikes. He assumes the so-called "deregulation" actually resulted in less regulation. In fact, the law:

1. Imposed price controls on electricity;
2. Forced private utilities to restructure;
3. Created a centrally planned market for electricity and forced private utilities to buy from that exchange;
4. And allowed government-run utilities in large cities to maintain their monopoly.

It appears that after "deregulation," there was actually *more* regulation in California.

The 1996 "deregulation" law passed unanimously. When all Democrats and Republicans agree on something, you know it can't be less government.

— STEVEN SCHOCH
Sunnyvale, California

How we benefit from immigration

Continued from Page 26

Governments at the federal and state level should end such handouts, to immigrants and natives as well.

■ **End "multicultural" programs.** Certain government programs are not only expensive, but they retard the participation of new immigrants in society.

Bilingual education, a program started in 1968 and slated for \$750 million in funding next year, is a good example. While originally promising a more effective language teaching that would help immigrants assimilate faster, a wealth of evidence suggests that bilingual education programs are more a hindrance than a help.

Researchers Christine H. Rossell and J. Michael Ross analyzed data from 35 studies on bilingual education. The result? Most concluded that Transitional Bilingual Education was either no different or worse than the submersion technique, which places students immediately in main-

**AMERICAN
identity is not a
shared ethnic
background. It's a
set of principles.**

stream English-only classes.

As such, bilingual education programs have become less and less popular with immigrant parents. And several initiatives, such as Proposition 227 in California, have largely eliminated the practice in government schools. The remainder should be done away with as well.

■ **End work restrictions.** Many uneducated immigrants are prevented from offering a skill or service because expensive regulations have priced them out of the marketplace.

Perhaps the best example of such restrictions are licensing requirements. Even job skills without public-health or safety concerns often have mandatory licensing procedures intended to limit competition in a particular industry.

For example, in New York

City, where tens of thousands of immigrants reside, the government requires a license for a staggering number of occupations, including: Repairing videocassette recorders, running a parking lot or a junk shop, and braiding hair.

Such laws should be repealed to encourage immigrants (and other Americans, too) to use their initiative and skills to create jobs and benefit society.

10% are foreign-born

American culture is the result of substantial, ongoing immigration for more than two centuries. Even today, the Census Bureau estimates that about 10% of the present population is foreign-born.

Such a statistic underscores the fact that "American identity" is not a shared ethnic background. Instead, it is a set of principles that establish the right of individuals to peacefully coexist and pursue their own interests in freedom, as confirmed by the inscription on the Statue of Liberty: "Bring us your poor, your tired, your huddled masses, yearning to breathe free."

America should continue to live up to that credo of "opportunity for all" and reap the benefits of immigration — a major source of economic prosperity and cultural enrichment.

of 7% in government spending.

In addition, the Republican President asked for a tiny tax cut, to which the Republican Congress responds by claiming the cut is too large, and proceeds to lop off \$400 billion of it.

Besides the near inconsequential nature of the tax cut in dollar terms, it's further deceiving because the 10-year time span that it involves includes eight years beyond the "range" of the current Congress. Any such tax manipulations done now will only have an effect for two years, and beyond that time will be moot because a new Congress will then re-

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California LP Convention, Santa Maria Inn, Santa Maria. Speakers TBA. For more information contact: B.J. Wagener: (805) 928-1100. Or e-mail: bjwagener@hotmail.com.

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Washington state LP Convention, Hilton Hotel, Bellevue. Speakers TBA. For information, call: (206) 329-5669. Or e-mail: director@lpws.org.

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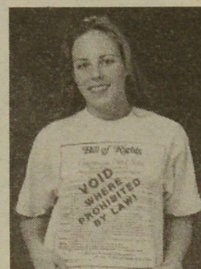
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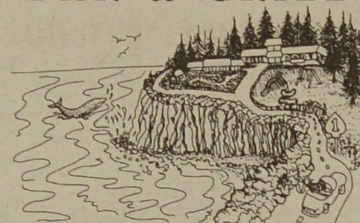
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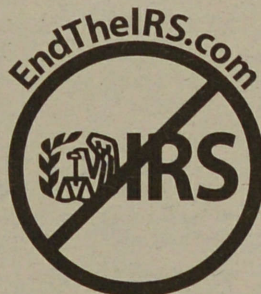
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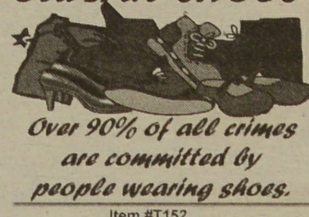
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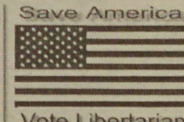
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Nevada LP Convention, Eldorado Hotel, Reno. Speakers include Aaron Russo (Hollywood producer), Chris Azzaro (founder, Libertarian Victory Fund), Dave Rigdon (Libertarian City Councilman), and James Dan (2000 candidate for State Representative). For information, call (775) 685-2615. E-mail: NVdirector@aol.com.

■ August 24-25, 2001

Missouri LP Convention, Holiday Inn, Wentzville. Features Don Gorman's Candidate's School and state committee meeting. For information, call: (877) Vote-4-US. E-mail: StCharlesCo@lpmo.org. Or visit: www.stcharles.lpmo.org/conventionflyer.htm.

■ August 25-26, 2001

Libertarian National Committee Meeting, Marriott Suites Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada. Open to all LP members. For information, call Dianne Pilcher at: (202) 333-0008 Ext. 231.

■ September 21-23, 2001

Gun Rights Policy Conference, Drawbridge Inn & Convention Center, Cincinnati, Ohio. Co-sponsored by the Second Amend-

ment Foundation and the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep & Bear Arms. Speakers TBA. For information, call: (425) 454-7012. E-mail: info@saf.org.

■ October 6, 2001

Connecticut LP Convention, Masonic Temple, Meriden. Speakers include Sharon Harris (President of Advocates for Self-Government) and Elias Israel (candidate for 2002 national LP Chair, current Massachusetts LP State Chair). For information, e-mail: jamadison@lpct.org.

■ October 6-7, 2001

Freedom Summit, Embassy Suites Hotel at the Biltmore, Phoenix, Arizona. Seminar "dedicated to promoting freedom." Speakers include Jacob Hornberger (president, Future of Freedom Foundation), Vin Suprynowicz (columnist), and Clint Bolick (VP, Institute for Justice). For information, visit: www.freedomsummit.com.

■ October 20, 2001

Colorado LP Fourth Annual Awards Banquet, Embassy Suites Hotel, Colorado Springs. Speakers include John Ross (author, *Unintended Consequences*). For information, call: (719) 596-6799. Or e-mail: ElPasoLiberty@aol.com. Or visit: www.LPEP.org

■ October 25-28, 2001

Cato University Seminar, Hotel Omni Mont-Royal, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Speakers TBA. For information, call: (202) 218-4633. Or visit: www.cato-university.org.

■ October 27, 2001

New Hampshire LP Convention, Holiday Inn, Concord. Speakers include State Representative Steve Vaillancourt (L-Manchester) and Richard Winger (*Ballot Access News*). For information, call Rosalie Babiarz at: (603) 523-8315. Or e-mail: rosalie@endor.com.

For more Upcoming Events, see page 30.

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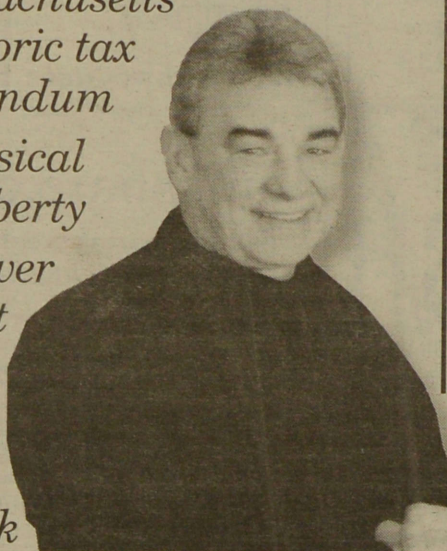
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FirstWord

"Forget about the Republicans and Democrats, another party is creeping into government works. The [Libertarian] party believes that individual freedom coupled with individual responsibility form the basis of a benevolent community, country, and world."

— RYAN HARRIS, *The Bradley Weekly* (Cleveland, Tennessee), June 5, 2000

"Not so widely known is the Libertarian Party's influence on last November's election. The Libertarians' showing has prompted Republican strategists to key much of their 2002 congressional campaign to limited government themes that appeal to Libertarians."

— THE AUGUSTA CHRONICLE, Augusta, Georgia, May 26, 2001